

Mass killing reported in Uganda

KAMPALA (R) — Men wearing Ugandan army uniforms knifed or hacked to death some 30 people in two villages east of Kampala at the weekend, according to eyewitness accounts reaching Kampala Monday. The eyewitnesses, who asked not to be identified, said the mass killing took place on Friday and Saturday at Sonde and Jinja villages in the Mukono district. Details were sketchy but the eyewitnesses said the killers went from house to house after arriving in the district by bus. The area is generally free of anti-government guerrillas but one guerrilla unit had been reported in the district shortly before hand, the eyewitnesses said. Eight people died Sunday at Kyebando 11 kilometres northwest of Kampala when unidentified gunmen in civilian clothes opened fire on a meeting of the local branch of the ruling Uganda Peoples Congress (UPC), local officials said.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الرأي"

Armenian leader escapes car bomb

PARIS (R) — A prominent Armenian activist found a bomb under his car in Paris Monday after passing motorists noticed it and sounded their horns, police said. They said Ara Toranian, head of the Armenian National Movement, was about to drive from a parking spot in eastern Paris when the bomb containing five sticks of plastic explosive was noticed. Police experts defused it. The Armenian National Movement is a political group which backs the Beirut-based Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) which has claimed responsibility for several bomb attacks, mostly against Turkish targets.

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Israeli patrol attacked in Lebanon

BEIRUT (R) — Gunmen attacked an Israeli patrol in a village south of Beirut Monday with rocket propelled grenades but caused no casualties, an Israeli army spokesman said. The spokesman, based at Yarz, outside Beirut, said the attack took place at Bchamoun in the mountains overlooking the Lebanese capital.

Reagan names new chief for EPA

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Monday named a former deputy attorney general who resigned during the Watergate scandal, William Ruckelshaus, to head the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The agency drew allegations of mismanagement and political manipulation under his predecessor Anne Burford who stepped down 12 days ago. Mr. Ruckelshaus told reporters in Mr. Reagan's presence that he had been given "a free hand" in his new post, which is subject to Senate confirmation.

Israelis to pay \$50 travel tax

TEL AVIV (R) — Israelis going abroad will have to pay a \$50 travel tax from next month, the government announced Monday. A spokesman for the ministerial economic committee told reporters that some \$40 million were expected to be collected from the estimated 800,000 Israelis who will travel abroad this year.

Soviet team in Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — The vice-president of the Supreme Soviet (parliament), Temerbek Kosyov, began a week-long visit to Syria Monday with a strong declaration of Soviet support for Damascus, the official Syrian news agency SANA said. SANA quoted Mr. Kosyov as saying the Soviet Union strongly supported what the agency called "Syria's struggle to confront Israel's expansionist policy and to foil U.S. imperialist plots in the region."

30 Kurds killed

LONDON (R) — Thirty Kurdish guerrillas were killed at the weekend in renewed fighting with government forces in western Iran, the national news agency IRNA said Monday. IRNA said a combined force of Iranian revolutionary guards and regular troops attacks rebel bases in the troubled province of West Azarbaijan, recapturing several villages.

Kaunda pays tribute to Archbishop Makarios

THRONI, Cyprus (R) — President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, on an official visit to Cyprus, Monday travelled to this mountain village to lay a wreath on the tomb of the late Archbishop Makarios whom he described as a close friend. Dr. Kaunda arrived in Cyprus Sunday for a three-day visit at the invitation of President Spyros Kyprianou. At the tomb of Makarios, Dr. Kaunda said that if the principles by which the late archbishop had lived were adhered to, the world would be a much more peaceful place today.

INSIDE

- Crack-down on smuggling may boost Lebanon's domestic finances, page 2
- NCC approves new traffic law, page 3
- Syrian attitude getting increasingly pragmatic, page 4
- Drought, famine and poverty threaten Brazil's underprivileged, page 5
- Olympic chiefs prepare to tackle Los Angeles games problems, page 6
- Sterling hits all-time low, page 7
- London chiefs 'get away with murder', page 8

Israel announces new settlements

Arab protests intensify in West Bank

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Palestinian demonstrators Monday hurled stones at Israeli vehicles in half a dozen towns in the occupied West Bank to protest against a thwarted attempt by Jewish extremists to seize Jerusalem's sacred Haram Al Sharif.

In Arab East Jerusalem, Palestinians boycotted schools, closed some stores and threw stones close to the Wailing Wall. Israeli authorities placed a curfew on the central market area of the largest West Bank town, Nablus, after disturbances broke out there, security officials said. Stone-throwing Palestinians smashed the windshields of several Israeli cars in the West Bank town of Hebron and similar incidents were reported in Ramallah, Bethlehem, Halhoul and Beit Jala.

The disturbances broke out after the Supreme Muslim Religious Council called an Arab strike in protest against the attempt by the Jewish group last week to take control of the Haram Al Sharif, one of the holiest shrines in Islam.

Police thwarted the attempt and arrested 45 Israelis. Some of them were detained for periods of six or seven days and on Monday the last 29 of them were released on bail. Police said they were under house arrest and will be allowed out of their homes only for synagogue prayers.

Monday's disturbances followed a call from the supreme Muslim council for an Arab strike to protest at the attempted takeover of Haram Al Sharif.

8 military posts to be turned settlements

While the demonstrations continued, government officials announced plans to convert eight military posts in the West Bank into Jewish settlements.

Some opposition politicians said the move was aimed at discouraging Jordan from joining Middle East peace talks. Jordan has demanded a halt to settlements as a condition for taking part in talks. About 25,000 Jews already occupy some 100 settlements in the West Bank. One of the eight new settlements is to be on a hill above Nablus, the largest Palestinian town in the territory.

Israel elects Navon's successor today

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli parliament votes Tuesday to elect the country's sixth president with the two official candidates facing the difficult task of succeeding popular outgoing President Yitzhak Navon.

The ruling Likud coalition of Prime Minister Menachem Begin has nominated Menachem Elon, a supreme court judge and law professor, while the opposition Labor Party's candidate is Chaim Herzog, former Israeli ambassador to the United Nations and a well-known parliamentarian and journalist.

Although the presidency is con-

sidered mainly ceremonial, its prestige has allowed presidents to act as the nation's conciliator on major issues.

The secret ballot in the Knesset (parliament), which allows members of the ruling coalition to break party ranks, does not make Mr. Elon's election certain and his defeat would be highly embarrassing to Mr. Begin's government.

The nomination for the five-year post fell unexpectedly on him after two well-known figures—National Religious Party Chairman Yosef Burg and criminal lawyer Shlomo Toussia-



FLOWERS FOR QUEEN MOTHER: Her Majesty the Queen Mother, Zein Al Sharaf, in a

visit Monday to Umm Al Hussein Charity home to celebrate Mothers' Day, receives flowers from a child of the home. (Story on page 3)

Israel, Lebanon study new proposals

NETANYA (R) — Israel and Lebanon resumed negotiations Monday amid new American attempts to bring about the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon.

Lebanese and Israeli spokesmen said progress had been made in the talks, the first since Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Lebanese Foreign Minister Eli Salem met American leaders in Washington last week.

U.S. mediator Philip Habib flew to Beirut after discussions with Israeli leaders. Israeli officials said he had clarified new American proposals for the withdrawal of Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian forces.

The proposals have not been disclosed and a Lebanese spokesman said they did not come up in Monday's negotiations in this Mediterranean town.

Israeli spokesman Avi Pasner said the discussions centered on future ties between Israel and Lebanon, particularly the movement of people and goods between the two countries.

Israel has sought full ties with its northern neighbor, but Lebanon has rejected the Israeli demand.

Mr. Pasner said there were still "some gaps" on the "security arrangements" Israel was seeking in South Lebanon.

Talks on "security arrangements" will continue when

negotiators meet again in Netanyahu on Friday, Mr. Pasner said.

Mr. Habib met Mr. Shamir and Defence Minister Moshe Arens Sunday. Israeli officials said Mr. Shamir stressed Israel was insisting on the return of Israeli prisoners held by the Syrians and Palestinians before withdrawing its estimated 30,000 troops from Lebanon.

Israel Radio reported one proposal under discussion called for the Lebanese to control a 45-kilometre strip in southern Lebanon with a multinational force controlling a zone from the Awali River, approximately at the 45-km line, to Beirut.

Israel offers to share military data with U.S.

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel said Monday it would share with the United States military information it gained from last summer's invasion of Lebanon and predicted it would have a major impact on the East-West balance of power.

In an abrupt change of policy, Defence Minister Moshe Arens told a press conference Israel had decided to begin handing over the data next month under existing U.S.-Israeli agreements.

He said the military secrets would include Israeli technology used against Soviet ground-to-air missile batteries and against the Syrian army's T-72 Soviet-built tanks.

Mr. Arens, who has been defence minister only a month, said he hoped the decision would clear up misunderstandings which had developed during negotiations with Washington on sharing the "lessons" of the Lebanon war. He made clear Israel hoped it would lead to an overall improvement in recently-strained relations with the U.S.

Negotiations on an

information-sharing agreement broke down earlier this year apparently because former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon set unacceptable terms.

Mr. Arens, who was Israel's ambassador in Washington before taking over the Defence Ministry, said that instead of negotiating a separate pact to govern the Lebanon war data, the secrets would be handed over under existing information-sharing agreements.

Mr. Arens, an aeronautical engineer who helped develop early Israeli warplanes, said the army had accumulated a large volume of invaluable information from its battles against Soviet-equipped Syrian forces and Palestinian fighters in Lebanon.

He told reporters the information would make "a significant contribution to changes in the armed forces ratio between East and West... a major impact." During last June's fighting, Israel claimed to have wiped out Syria's SAM-6 missile batteries in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley and knocked out T-72 tanks.

Chinese envoy, Gromyko discuss normalising ties

MOSCOW (R) — Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, who has been holding talks on improving relations between Moscow and Peking, met Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko Monday. TASS news agency reported.

The official Soviet agency said the Chinese vice minister set out the position of Peking on matters of Sino-Soviet relations and on some international problems.

It said the Soviet side had emphasised its readiness "to look for ways towards the normalisation of relations with the PRC (People's Republic of China) and the existing possibilities for gradual broadening of bilateral ties and contacts."

Mr. Qian, expected to leave Moscow for home later Monday, began talks with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Leonid Ilyichov on March 1, but no details have been made public.

TASS made no mention of the talks being completed. It said that in Monday's meeting both sides stated "the positive

importance" of having a political dialogue.

The first round of talks between the two Communist giants, which have been engaged in an ideological feud for the past 20 years, was held in Peking last October. It lasted three weeks but produced no breakthrough.

Peking sees three main obstacles to improved relations: The presence of over one million Soviet troops along the two countries' common border and in Mongolia, the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, and Kremlin support for Vietnam's role in Kampuchea.

Moscow has said it wants China to renounce publicly all future claims on territory ceded to the Tsarist Russian empire last century. Soviet officials have also said talks on improved relations should not include problems involving third countries.

Most observers believe some movement in the latest talks was possible on the issue of troop reductions but Moscow will refuse to compromise on Afghanistan or Kampuchea.

Qasem: Jordan will not act for Palestinians

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem has said Jordan is not going to act for the Palestinians in the search for a Middle East peace settlement.

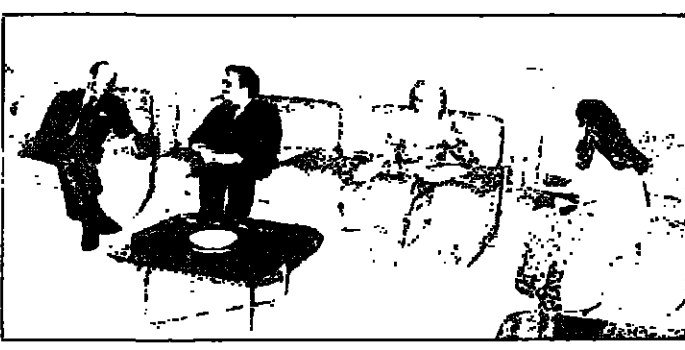
The foreign minister was quoted by the Observer of London last Sunday as saying: "We (Jordanians) prefer to fight if necessary on our own land, with our own forces, rather than struggle in a diplomatic quagmire in which we will be the scapegoats for failure. We are not going to act for the Palestinians. They must do it for themselves."

Duke, Duchess arrive

AMMAN (Petra) — The Duke and Duchess of Kent arrived in Amman Monday for a five-day visit to Jordan during which they will meet a number of officials in charge of economic and cultural affairs and visit tourist and historic sites in the country.

The Duke and Duchess were met at Amman Airport by His

Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Her Highness Princess Sarvath, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, officials from the Royal Court, British Ambassador in Amman Alan Urwick and their wives.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Her Highness Princess Sarvath, confer with the Duke and Duchess of Kent, who arrived Monday on a five-day visit to Jordan (Petra photo)

Lowered OPEC price to save Jordan JD 27m

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is expected to save JD 27 million (\$75 million) this year after the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) announced its decision last week to lower oil prices from \$34 to \$29 a barrel, Finance Minister Salem Mas'adeh said Monday.

But the savings would still fall short of covering the JD 50 million deficit in the 1983 government budget resulting from subsidy to fuel prices, Mr. Mas'adeh told Jordan Television in an interview.

By raising local fuel prices last February, the government had saved JD 9 million and consumers

should reduce the consumption of fuel in order to alleviate the country's burden, the finance minister said.

International oil prices would have to come down to \$27 a barrel before the government could lower prices for consumers in Jordan, Mr. Mas'adeh said.

The minister said import of oil in 1983 is expected to amount to 21 million barrels, but that the government is trying to limit it, voluntarily, to 20 million. He explained that, with the current price of oil fixed at \$29 a barrel, the annual savings would be \$100 million.

French franc devalued, German mark revalued...

BRUSSELS (R) — European Economic Community countries realigned their currencies Monday with the mark revalued by 5.5 per cent and the French franc devalued by 2.5 per cent. West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg announced.

The realignment with the European Monetary System (EMS), which links eight community currencies, came after three days of tough talks marked by bitter French attacks on Bonn.

Mr. Stoltenberg said the Dutch guilder was revalued by 3.5 per cent, the Danish crown by 2.5 per cent and the Belgian and Luxembourg francs by 1.5 per cent.

The Irish pound was devalued by 3.5 per cent and the Italian lira by 2.5 per cent, an official statement said.

The agreement, which means that official currency trading can resume after being suspended

Monday, caused relief among diplomats as community heads of government gathered in Brussels for a summit meeting due to start later Monday.

It followed turmoil on foreign exchange markets in which a strong mark, boosted by Chancellor Helmut Kohl's March 6 election victory, tugged against a franc weakened by the poor showing of President Francois Mitterrand's Socialists in French municipal elections this month.

French Finance Minister Jacques Delors, accusing West Germany of being arrogant and uncomprehending, threatened on Saturday night to pull France out of the EMS if no satisfactory outcome was achieved.

The row revealed deeper tensions between the two countries which are pillars of the 10-nation community, over their divergent economic and trade policies.

...clearing way for Paris to decide cabinet changes

PARIS (R) — Agreement on a European currency realignment Monday cleared the way for a French cabinet reshuffle and reduced the chances of President Francois Mitterrand opting for an isolationist economic programme, political sources said.

The accord also averted a looming crisis between Paris and Bonn although their war of nerves over the European Monetary System (EMS) appeared likely to affect community relations for some time, they said.

European finance ministers, meeting in Brussels under a French threat to withdraw from the four-year-old system, agreed to a formula which included a mark revaluation of 5.5 per cent and a franc devaluation of 2.5 per cent in the EMS.

The accord marks the third devaluation of the franc since the Mit-

terrand administration took office in June 1981.

Mitterrand has been awaiting the outcome of the Brussels talks before deciding on the form of a long-awaited shake-up in his 21-month-old administration and expected measures to revive France's ailing economy.

The reshuffle is expected to include the departure of Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy, who is regarded by many commentators as a political lame duck after the devaluations of 1981 and 1982 and Socialist Party losses in municipal elections this month.

Mr. Mitterrand, who has refrained from restating his confidence in the prime minister, is due to reveal his new programme in a television address on Wednesday after his return from the community summit in Brussels.

FEATURES

Crackdown on smuggling may boost Lebanon's domestic finances

By Alan Philips
Reuters

BEIRUT — Lebanon is relying on an army-enforced crackdown on smuggling and illegal ports to help put its chaotic domestic finances in order, officials say.

Since the 1975-76 civil war, private armies have operated illegal ports along Lebanon's Mediterranean coastline, earning themselves a handsome income and depriving the state of an estimated five billion Lebanese pounds (\$1.2 billion).

But now the administration of President Amin Gemayel has served notice it intends to stamp out the smuggling bonanza — at least in Beirut, the only part of the country effectively under its control.

This would pave the way for a

drive to rebuild Lebanon's war-damaged infrastructure, the officials say.

Customs receipts, once the mainstay of the treasury, fell to post-civil-war low last year of 404 million Lebanese pounds (about \$100 million), official figures show.

Finance Minister Adel Hammiye said in a budget statement last Thursday that he hopes this figure will rise to two billion pounds (\$476 million) this year and help contain the spiralling government debt to the local banks.

The budget for calendar 1983, approved by parliament on the same day, still includes a projected deficit of 3.52 billion pounds (\$840 million), or 35 per cent of total spending.

This compares with a projected

1982 deficit of 2.7 billion pounds (\$649 million) which in fact rose to around six billion pounds (\$1.42 billion), officials say.

"But we hope that thanks to the clear improvement in the security situation, we will be able to boost revenues and progressively reduce the deficit," Mr. Hammiye said.

The budget, totalling 100.06 billion pounds (\$2.4 billion), was increased at the last minute by a quarter to include money to repair war-hit public buildings and bridges and expand Beirut Airport.

Recent budgets, which act only as a vague guide to government spending due to the constant instability in Lebanon, have covered little more than civil service salaries. But even these relatively small outlays have not been met

by revenue.

Throughout the years of strife and lawlessness since 1975 culminating in last June's Israeli invasion, the total government debt to the banking sector has risen to around 14 billion pounds (\$3.3 billion), officials say.

They say the need to generate local revenue has become pressing due to the size of the debt, as well as the prospect of increased spending on the army, spearheaded by Mr. Gemayel's bid to extend government control.

The government also has plans to spend about \$15 billion over 10 years to rebuild roads, housing and ports damaged in the civil war and Israeli invasion.

A government agency, the Council for Development and Reconstruction, has made a start on the plans but officials say the

main thrust must wait for the withdrawal of Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian forces, who between them control most of the country.

Mr. Hammiye based his optimistic assessment of Lebanon's finances on a move by the army to take control of the last remaining "illegal" section of Beirut Port from right-wing Christian militiamen.

Western diplomats here estimate the rightists made anything up to \$5 million a month from exacting their own private dues at the port and agreed to stop only after strong pressure from the president and rightist leaders.

At the same time, the army warned Beirut traders they must prove that their wares were legally cleared through customs, or face military justice.

The move was aimed at discouraging businessmen from channeling their imports through ports still outside army control, particularly the Israeli port of Haifa.

The flood of goods arriving in the wake of the Israeli army is seriously worrying Lebanese businessmen and officials.

As well as bypassing the state customs men, it has led two Arab countries, Saudi Arabia and Jordan, to impose a wide range of restrictions on imports from Lebanon for fear that they may actually be made in Israel or shipped through it.

In response to the army moves, smuggled cigarettes — openly sold in Beirut for the past seven years — are fast disappearing

from the streets to be replaced by those imported by the state monopoly.

In smart electrical stores, shopkeepers are marking up the prices of Japanese-made video and radio equipment by as much as 30 per cent, telling their clients to buy now before customs duties are reimposed.

But it remains to be seen whether the army will be strong enough to impose its control over businessmen in the capital after years of economic free-for-all.

Central Bank officials have long called for the treasury to acquire a steady domestic revenue to cover current spending before it sets about repairing the war damage.

The shortfall is, however, offset by Lebanon's enviable foreign

reserves of \$1.7 billion and gold holdings at the end of 1982 of 9.2 million ounces — worth nearly \$4 billion at the current price. Foreign debt is negligible.

Officials say these holdings should not be used to finance reconstruction, but must be retained in case the Central Bank needs to defend the free-floating currency if confidence is shaken by any new upsurge of violence.

Mr. Hammiye indirectly confirmed this approach, setting out four sources of funding for reconstruction. These are self-financing projects, long-term loans from "friendly" countries and international bodies, commercial bank loans on the local and foreign markets, and foreign aid.

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HOME NEWS

Queen Mother pays visit to charity home

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty the Queen Mother, Zain Al Sharaf, honorary president of Umm Al Hussein charity home, Monday patronised the celebration to mark the occasion of Mothers' Day.

Speakers at the celebration welcomed the Queen Mother and expressed their appreciation of and pride in her as the model mother who brought up His Majesty King Hussein, who is the leader and builder of our country. They also thanked her for her support and guidance, and pledged that they would pay her back in the future by loyally serving their country and contributing to its economic and social progress.

The celebration was attended by Her Highness Princess Basma, Sharifah Fatimah, the president of

the society supervising the home. Social Development Minister In'am Al Mufti, the wives of the prime minister and the royal court chief, wives of high-ranking state officials and the wives of the heads of the diplomatic missions accredited to Jordan.

The Queen Mother, the social development minister and a number of those attending contributed sums of money to assist the home.

The home was established in 1951 and has since rendered social, educational, cultural and health services to students at the elementary and preparatory levels. It also has a vocational training centre for students who want to learn a trade at the end of their preparatory education instead of going on to high school.

Home, Garden Club marks Mothers' Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — To mark Mother's Day the Home and Garden Club in Jordan held a luncheon at the Regency Palace's Alali restaurant. 400 mothers attending the luncheon amongst including ladies from various foreign diplomatic missions in Amman. To coincide with the luncheon Mrs. Fakhoury, president of the club, organised a demonstration of painting on natural silk given by Lisiane Albert and a display of flower arranging and the love of nature, given by Claudette Saffi, from Alia public

relations. Miss Saffi later told the audience how easy and rewarding it is for a woman to make a special atmosphere in the home.

She also suggested that the Home and Garden Club members organise private home garden competitions in the future to encourage families to enjoy working in their own gardens. Mrs. Fakhoury later distributed gifts to prize-winners among the attendant mothers following a lottery.

Drama training seminar begins

By Ailisa Duff
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Friends of Children Club in cooperation with the British Council, held a five day seminar last week to introduce teachers in Jordan to the method of teaching which employs drama and theatre as a means of learning. Following the suggestion of Miss Margo Malatjalian, one of the founders of the Friends of Children society, the Ministry of Education recently introduced drama into the present curriculum of the Teachers Training Colleges of Jordan.

The use of drama in schools at the present time is minimal and, as it is so under utilised, a seminar was organised to acquaint teachers with drama and theatre so that they might employ these in their own classrooms.

David Johnston, an expert on drama from London, gave a series of lectures to the thirty or so participants attending the con-

ference, as well as leading a number of discussion and demonstration sessions.

"Through drama", said Mr. Johnston, "a child can develop his self-confidence and a sense of responsibility". By demonstrating techniques and providing information, Mr. Johnston hopes to stimulate the existing interest of many teachers in drama. "The main difference between drama and theatre is that in drama the children are actual participants, whereas in theatre the children make up the audience", Mr. Johnston said.

The seminar, which ran from the March 15-20, was held at the Friends of Children Club centre on Jabal Amman.

From Amman, Mr. Johnston will travel to Salt, Ajloun and Irbid where he will be giving lectures to student teachers there. He will be accompanied by Miss Malatjalian who is the programme and drama adviser at the Friends of Children Club.

Anguish, anger retrospective characterises Abu Rub

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The exhibition of the work of Ibrahim Najjar Abu Rub now on show at the University of Jordan library gallery is in actuality a small retrospective of the oils, watercolours and charcoal drawings he has created over the last two years. People who have been following this artist's progress will thus be familiar with many of the pieces, some of which were exhibited very recently in a group exhibition at the French Cultural Centre. But according to

Abu Rub the exhibition is not aimed at them but at the university students who rarely get to see exhibitions in town and to whom all the work is new. The gesture seems to have been appreciated as a steady trickle of students can always be found browsing around the display from the early morning onwards.

Although all the work has been exhibited before it is the kind of art—sincere and valid—that can stand a second showing. Furthermore it is always interesting to trace an artist's development, as you try to spot, like a detective,



One of Ibrahim Najjar Abu Rub's collection of watercolours which make up part of his exhibition at the University of Jordan (Jordan Times photo).



One of the wreath laying ceremonies at the Martyrs' Monument which commemorated the fifteenth anniversary of the Battle of Karameh (Petra photo)

Jordan commemorates Karameh battle

KARAMEH (Petra) — Jordan celebrated Monday the 15th anniversary of Al Karameh battle, which was fought in March 1968 against an invading Israeli force in the Jordan Valley. On that day the Jordanian army scored its first military and moral victory against Israeli forces after the 1967 war.

Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker attended a special ceremony, held in Amman to mark the anniversary, and placed a wreath at the Martyrs' Monument.

Official and popular delegations, including university professors and officials, students and scouts, also visited the Martyrs' Monument on the occasion to place wreaths there.

Male and female scouts of Al Bakqa Governorate organised a cultural and art show during which photographs of Jordanian martyrs, who died in the battle, were exhibited. Plays narrating the heroism of the armed forces in the

battle were also presented. The scouts organised a procession to the Martyrs' Monument and placed a wreath on it.

Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh opened an exhibition of children's photographs and paintings organised by the social development centre in Nazal quarter to commemorate the anniversary of Al Karameh battle. The four-day exhibition includes photographs of the battle, as well as handicrafts.

Food production talks set for early April

AMMAN (J.T.) — A seminar on food production in Jordan will be held in Amman on April 3, organised by the Arab Union for Foodstuff Industries in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Jordanian Chamber of Industry.

The seminar will be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan in the conference hall of the Chamber of Industry, and will discuss prospects of development for the Jordanian food industry.

Jordanian, Romanian body discusses trade relations

AMMAN (Petra) — The first meeting of the fifth session of the Jordanian-Romanian economic, technical and scientific cooperation committee began its deliberations here Monday.

The delegations to the committee, led by Industry and Trade Minister Walid Asfour and Romanian Minister of Construction Abroad Ion Stancescu, discussed economic and trade relations between the two states and ways of developing them. They also reviewed the steps covered so far by the committee.

Meanwhile, Agriculture Ministry Under-Secretary Salem Al Lawzi reviewed with Mr. Stancescu the joint agricultural projects to be implemented according to the agricultural cooperation protocol concluded between the two countries. The projects will be implemented in Jordan with the assistance of Romanian agricultural experts.

Most important of these projects is to conduct an economic feasibility study into the feeding of cattle and to bring over a Romanian expert on bee raising.

the germ of a painting in a previous one. From the more figurative pieces like the attractive mother and child that was painted in Abu Rub's first year in art college in Cairo and the giant nine by two point three metre rather crude oil painting portraying women and children being trampled under the shadow of a symbolic crucifixion.

Abu Rub developed the writing mummified figures armed with ferocious spikes which quickly became his hallmark. With these subtly effective pieces, on whose flat open landscapes cameos of action take place, Abu Rub was able to

convey his message of anguish and anger powerfully also with a graceful persuasiveness. While exploring the potential of these figures, Abu Rub went onto produce the two very fine charcoal drawings and the eight small watercolours also on display. In the former the figures have been completely abstracted to form dramatically strong black curves that swerve around the paper with an unflinching determination. These lead the eye in, out and around its complex shapes and forms that sometimes look like human torsos and limbs with their sinews exposed.

In the watercolours however Abu Rub has still employed the same motif of the bandaged figures, and much more successfully than in his later oils. In these his colours have become harsher—ruddy browns replace the gentle beiges of the stage on which his figures crouch, poised like snipers—and the sky has become a deep oppressive band of blue

ART REVIEW

which dominates instead of complementing. The dark colours also give these works an overworked feel, a certain lifelessness—two faults which the watercolours with their spontaneous washes, vigorous pencil lines and shades and lighter touches of colour strenuously avoid.

Perhaps sensing this heaviness, Abu Rub has started to develop along other lines. He has unwrapped his figures and now they stand, naked and vulnerable, thin and vertical, close together on dangerously pointed legs like a row of iron railings forming a united front against the enemy. While still very hard, his colours—the fierce reds, oranges and pinks tempered with cooler spots of blue and green—are now angry and full of wild energy. As these pieces become more abstract they become charged with emotion and it is difficult to remain unmoved by their savage dynamism.

The exhibition runs until March 23.

Islamic conference to be held in Amman

By a Staff Reporter

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Academy of the Islamic Civilisation Research (AI Bayt Foundation) will hold its second annual conference Monday, April 11, at Amman's Regency Palace.

The conference, which will continue until April 14, will be attended by over 70 top Islamic clergymen from Arab and Islamic countries, India, the Soviet Union, Europe, and the United States. Many of those who have been invited hold key posts in their own countries or in Arab or international organisations.

His Majesty King Hussein will open the conference and will make a national speech at the opening ceremony which will be held at the Royal Cultural Centre.

The conference will discuss several topics, including a report on first annual conference, regulations governing Islamic research, the division of the Islamic civilisation treatise and a plan for Arab-Islamic education. It will also continue discussion on the "treatment of non-Muslims in Islam," as well as debating financial management in Islam.

French art exhibition opens today

AMMAN (J.T.) — The French Embassy, in co-operation with Air France, will hold a painting exhibition in Amman beginning at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday March 22.

The water colour paintings, which will be on display at the French Cultural Centre, is the work of the French artist Nicole Massain.

The exhibition is taking place under the patronage of the Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Information Peter Salah.

Badran receives bar president

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran received at his office Monday the new president of the Jordanian Bar Association (JBA), Suleiman Al Hadidi, the new members of the JBA council, and representatives of the lawyers from the occupied West Bank.

During the meeting, they discussed a number of topics related to the JBA and the conditions of the West Bank lawyers and other professional sectors there. The discussions were focused on ways of giving support to the lawyers in particular and the residents of the occupied territories in general, so that they can continue to confront the Israeli occupying authorities.

Prime Minister Badran praised the steadfastness of the residents of the occupied territories and said that the Jordanian government will continue to render its full support in helping them hold on to their land.

NCC completes approval of new traffic legislation

By Lamis Andoni
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The National Consultative Council (NCC) approved Monday a new traffic law after detailed and prolonged discussion that has spanned the last nine weeks.

The new law, which comprises 85 articles, will replace Jordan's old traffic law enacted in 1958. During the discussions of the articles of the new law council as well as cabinet members pointed out that the regulations are much stricter than old law.

Although several members objected to what they considered to be "severe penalties" imposed on traffic violators, most of the NCC members agreed that such measures should be applied to curb the high rate of accidents in Jordan. It was pointed out, however, by members as well by columnists in the Jordanian newspapers that "severe penalties" will not be of any use if they are not coupled with other measures to improve the traffic situation in Jordan.

Among other important measures that should be taken, they said, are the improvement of road conditions and a reassessment of the way traffic signs are distributed. Minister of Interior Ahmad Obaidat assured the council, during one of the recent sessions, that the new traffic law is one of the steps being taken by his ministry to improve the traffic situation. He also stressed that a reassessment of the plan locating the traffic signs will be carried out by the ministry in the near future.

Regulations relating to the erection of traffic signs were among the last eight articles discussed and approved during Monday's session. According to article number 80 the Public Works Ministry shall prepare and install road signs on the roads outside municipal and rural borders. Municipal and rural councils shall prepare and install these signs within the borders of their municipalities or village councils, provided that the signs clearly indicate necessary signs for the driver.

As for signs guiding the direction and regulating the flow of traffic, which includes one-way

road signs, they should be erected according to the discretion of the authority responsible for regulating road traffic.

Other articles that were passed Monday allow vehicle driving licenses to be renewed by mail. They also stipulate that routes and destinations of taxis should be defined and the number of cars allocated to each route be specified.

The council also approved an amendment to article 78 which stipulate that "any traffic officer has the right to arrest, without a warrant, any driver who commits a violation and refuses to produce his or her driving license or any sort of identity documents." The amendment suggested by the NCC legal committee states that the violator should be released directly after proving his or her identity unless the traffic violation necessitates otherwise.

Minister of Public Works Awni Al Masri, who is also a council member, proposed the addition of an article which permits the impounding of any cargo vehicle whose load exceeds the load stated in the law.

His proposal was rejected by the council. The chairman of the legal committee, Taher Hikmat, said that if Mr. Masri was speaking in his capacity as a minister and not as a member then it is strange that he is trying to change a law which was formulated by the cabinet of which he is a member.

Mr. Masri answered that if it is acceptable to add articles to laws formulated by the government then this should be applied to all laws that might be discussed by the council.

Before endorsing the law, Mrs. Aida Al Mottaq read out observations on the law which were signed by 12 other members. The observations were prepared by Mrs. Mottaq and Mrs. Laila Sharaf who did not attend the session because she is currently out of the

country. Among the recommendations that were suggested by the 12 members are:

-- The traffic police should be trained socially and technically in discipline and on how to deal with citizens on the basis of mutual respect; and to deal with both violation and penalty without insulting the person committing the violation.

-- In return, the citizen should respect the traffic police and appreciate that he is only doing his duty.

-- The traffic police should be aware of traffic rules and guide traffic accordingly to facilitate the flow of traffic thus decreasing the chances of a traffic jam.

-- The traffic police should have a smart appearance and be well disciplined in performing their duty. For example, policemen should not talk to colleagues and neglect the traffic around him.

-- The traffic police should also explain the signs and instructions on the roads in advance before the drivers reach the point where a violation might be committed. For example, a driver should not suddenly reach a sign indicating that he should take a left turn.

The council then approved the new traffic law which will come into effect pending a government announcement. In its regular session Monday the council listened to replies by the cabinet on enquiries made by the NCC public services and utilities committee about deficiencies in public services in the Baqa'a Palestinian refugee camp, and about pollution in the east side of Amman.

The reply indicated that the concerned authorities are implementing programmes that aim to improve public services and utilities in the camp. It also stated that government institutions are seriously studying, and carrying out where necessary, measures to combat pollution in the eastern part of the capital.

At the end of the session, which was shorter than usual, the NCC Chairman Suleiman Arar announced that the council will stop sending its weekly telegrams to members informing them of the time of the session because due to the prohibitive cost.

Foreign students club opens Monday



Mrs. Hala Hourani

By Abdullah Al Nsour
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali will Monday afternoon patronise the opening of the Arab and foreign students club at the university.

Speaking about the idea of the club and its goals, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs and Honorary Chairman of the club, Mrs. Hala Hourani, said the idea of the club has not yet fully crystallised, but that its primary goal is to integrate Arab and foreign students thus providing them with cultural, social, sports and other services.

Mrs. Hourani said the other goals of the club are to encourage scientific discussion amongst members; to develop the cultural, intellectual, social, sports and technical capabilities of the club members; to strengthen relations among club members, and between the teaching staff and Jordanian students; to acquaint the students with Jordan's culture, history, people and geography; and to help solve academic and personal problems facing students, therefore facilitating their adaptation to the university environment and life in Jordan.

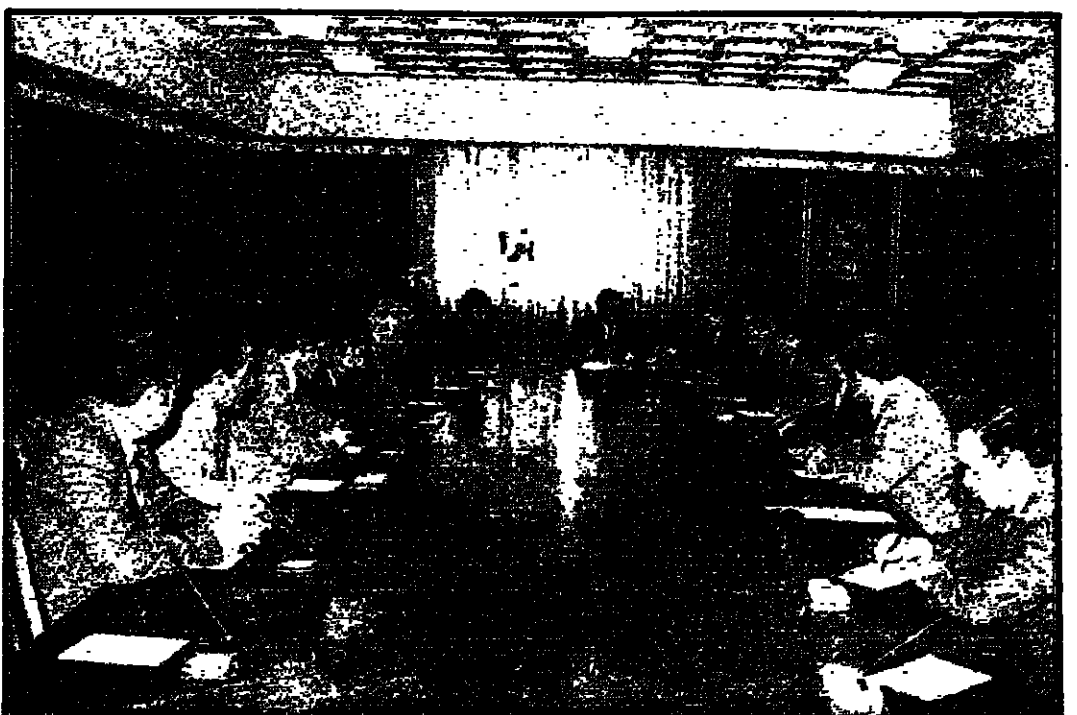
The club is using several methods to achieve its goals, Mrs. Hourani said. Among these methods are the publication of studies, bulletins and posters of a scientific, literary and cultural nature; organising student trips; participation in organising sports activities, fairs, exhibitions, and parties; the arranging of lectures, and scientific, literary and intellectual seminars and symposia in the university; and any other activities deemed appropriate by the club's managing board.

Asked if there is any duplication between the club's activities and the various activities of the university, Mrs. Hourani said the club is not intended to conflict with the activities of the university, as its role, such as finding accommodation for new foreign students, is separate.

Mrs. Hourani said the university is helping the club by allocating funds to it through the student societies. The university has also given the club a hall and supplied it with furniture, a conference table and stationary. It has also given the club a notice board and will help the club publish a weekly or monthly bulletin. Furthermore, the university is helping the club in technical matters and is giving it every advice.

"Everything that is available at the university is devoted to serving the students and enabling them carry out their cultural and sports activities, such as the establishment of a sports club," she said.

The club's managing board consists of representatives from Lebanon, Palestine, Oman, the United States, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia, she said. As for the festival, which will be organised Monday, it includes folk dancing and songs by Jordanian, Arab and foreign students, in addition to the wearing of national costume by each group of students representing their native country, Mrs. Hourani concluded.



Prime Minister Mudar Badran Monday met Suleiman Al Hadidi the new president of the Jordanian

Bar Association, and members of its newly elected council. (Petra photo)

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Double vision for Greece

REPORTS that the U.S. has substantially increased its offer of military aid to Greece, and the intensified pace of current talks in Athens between Greek and U.S. officials, indicate the significance Washington attaches to its military facilities in Greece.

Greece, with its strategic location, provides an ideal spot for the U.S. to monitor military developments in the Middle East, which Washington and others consider to be most volatile. Apparently the U.S. realises that if it were to lose such facilities, it would find itself deprived of an upper hand in the event of a strategic crisis.

Indications are that Washington would bow to Greek demands of increased aid, in proportion to that granted to Turkey, and re-assure itself of having an edge over the Soviet Union in terms of monitoring stations in the region.

No doubt Moscow too is keeping a keen watch on the Athens talks and it will not be long before Soviet moves are made to counterbalance American ones.

There is one element which seems to be very conveniently ignored by Washington in its persuasive tactics with Athens, and that is the feelings of the region's peoples.

It is time the Arabs made their voice loud and clear to Washington, and also Moscow, that any addition to the already swollen arsenal of the superpowers in the region is not welcome any more than the region would like to watch silently as the superpowers drag their war into the area.

The Arab World has its own problems to solve and superpower rivalry is the last thing the Arabs need to add to their woes.

Obviously it is the size of the military aid package offered by the U.S. which influences the Greek decision, but if properly handled the Socialist administration of Andreas Papandreu could be persuaded to join the Arab voice.

Greece-Arab ties had been rooted strongly from historic times and Athens has been one of the steady and principled supporters of Arab causes. It does not appear to be a herculean task for the Arab World to stretch out to Greece in a gesture of friendship and ensure that the outcome of the Athens talks will in no way trigger off a new wave of superpower rivalry in the region.

To do so will also serve the interest of the Arab cause in showing the world that the Arab World genuinely believes in peace and international understanding.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Karameh Day shows fruits of unity

Fifteen years ago, Arab history witnessed a glorious day on which the Jordanian and Palestinian people repulsed an arrogant Israeli assault against the town of Karameh in the Jordan Valley. The Jordanian armed forces, hand in hand with the Palestinian resistance fighters, fought honourably in defence of Jordanian territory.

It was not long after the 1967 June defeat, and the Israeli aggressors believed that they could attack any part of Arab soil unchecked. But the retaliation of our Jordanian-Palestinian front proved illusory all Zionist fantasies that Israel had gained perpetual military superiority against the Arab land and people. The Zionist war fanatics were stunned to see their "unconquerable" forces receive a hard blow comprising the loss of tens of tanks and hundreds of soldiers wounded.

In marking Karameh Day, we contemplate the positive aspects of our people's effective unity in facing the dangers from without, and defending our national soil. We also remind our people that our brethren in the West Bank and Gaza are still waiting for a second Karameh Day to relieve them from Israeli persecution. The only way to achieve another such victory is to unify and then rally the Arab ranks.

Al Dustour: Israel exploits U.S. weakness

Regardless of instructions given to the Israeli invasion forces in Lebanon not to make trouble for the multinational force, particularly the U.S. Marines, Israeli troops Sunday made an attempt to penetrate American lines in the Lailaki quarter of Beirut. The Israelis seem to know how to manipulate American public opinion's sensitivity towards U.S. military involvement abroad in the wake of the Vietnam experience.

But instead of handling the Israeli trouble-makers toughly, the Americans continue to deal weakly with the Israelis making the whole situation in Lebanon subject to their unequal relations. The Arabs are regarded as irrelevant, with the only display of American might being their Sixth Fleet warships anchored close to shore.

The U.S. method of dealing with its Israeli ally has not changed a bit. The same language and gestures that characterised the American position towards the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza apply to the Lebanese situation, regardless of promises and pledges, and despite the open Israeli rejection of all American peace proposals. The U.S. has continually expressed a wish that Israel act in a certain way, but no practical measures have ever been taken to make the Israelis move into line with the Americans. The Israeli stand is a pragmatic and clear one, but the American one is woolly and pusillanimous.

Sawt Al Shaab: Gratitude to the military

Jordan Monday celebrated the fifteenth anniversary of the Karameh battle, which testifies to the ability of Arab forces to repulse attack, and to defend our national soil. The heroic Karameh defeat of Israeli aggressive attempts against Jordan took place at a time when Arab morale was very low due to the 1967 June war tragedy.

The continued Arab disunity has been the main factor behind our inability to liberate the occupied Arab territories, and force the Zionist enemy to submit to the requirements of a just and durable peace in the region. Nonetheless, Jordan's peaceful effort now is aimed at securing Palestinian rights and attaining an Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories occupied in the 1967 June war. This is no way means that we are not prepared to defend our soil and repulse any Israeli aggression against our land.

On this occasion, we express our gratitude to our brave sons in the Armed Forces, which, under the guidance of His Majesty King Hussein, have safeguarded our future, and are always willing to support the rights of Palestinian people.

No hope in the lady?

By Rami G. Khouri

The visit of an Arab League mission to London last week for talks with the British government about the Arab peace plan adopted at the Fez summit may appear to be simply another official visit discussing the Arab-Israeli conflict. Yet, this particular visit had some interesting aspects to it that are worth highlighting.

The substance of the visit itself was pre-empted very early on by the disagreement between Great Britain and the Arab states about the status of the Palestinian member of the Arab team that was headed by His Majesty King Hussein. The Arabs wanted to send a senior PLO representative, while Great Britain refused to accept such an "official" Palestinian. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, the British prime minister and a lady who tries to sneak in an extra hour or two of sleep every night so she has surplus energy the next day to hail the self-determination of people in Zimbabwe and the South Atlantic, refused to receive an off-

icial PLO representative until the PLO, in her words, accepted the existence of Israel and renounced terrorism. It is peculiar that this lady leader with the iron interior applies her criteria for self-determination so discriminately — but then, such is the logical result of a Western alliance in which the leading European states share with the United States not only the burden of keeping the West free, but also intellectually incoherent. So, we have the spectacle of Mrs. Thatcher refusing to meet an "official" PLO representative, but instead agreeing to meet Dr. Walid Khalidi. The distinction is strange, almost incomprehensible. Dr. Khalidi, officially speaking, is a member of the Palestine National Council, the Palestinian parliament-in-exile and the highest political authority of the Palestinian people. The Palestine National Council, as the top PLO decision-making body, sets policy for all the

other PLO institutions, including the Executive Committee, the Central Council, the National Fund and the many other bodies of the PLO. Not only is Dr. Khalidi, as a PNC member, very much an "official" PLO member, but he is also among a handful of distinguished Palestinian academics and scholars whose contribution has been a major factor in the evolution of Palestinian policy during the past several decades. To distinguish between Dr. Khalidi and the PLO is like trying to separate Margaret Thatcher from the Armies of the Prince of Light. It is an artificial, meaningless and slightly laughable exercise — but, in view of British policies in Palestine during the past five or six decades, perhaps it is testament to the British commitment to consistency at any cost.

But what is the underlying meaning of last week's visit? It seems to me that an important point that should not be missed is the decision of the PLO to

accept the compromise of sending Dr. Khalidi on the mission team instead of someone more "official", in British eyes, such as a member of the PLO Executive Committee. This would suggest that the PLO is not uncompromisingly hung up on its own institutional imperative, that it is willing to take a step sideways at key moments if such a step would enhance the prospects of achieving the stated goals of the Palestinian people as a whole. The compromise over the PLO representative in the London talks should be seen as a precedent that could be applied in other situations, such as in talks with the United States, perhaps, or even in a negotiating forum with Israel someday.

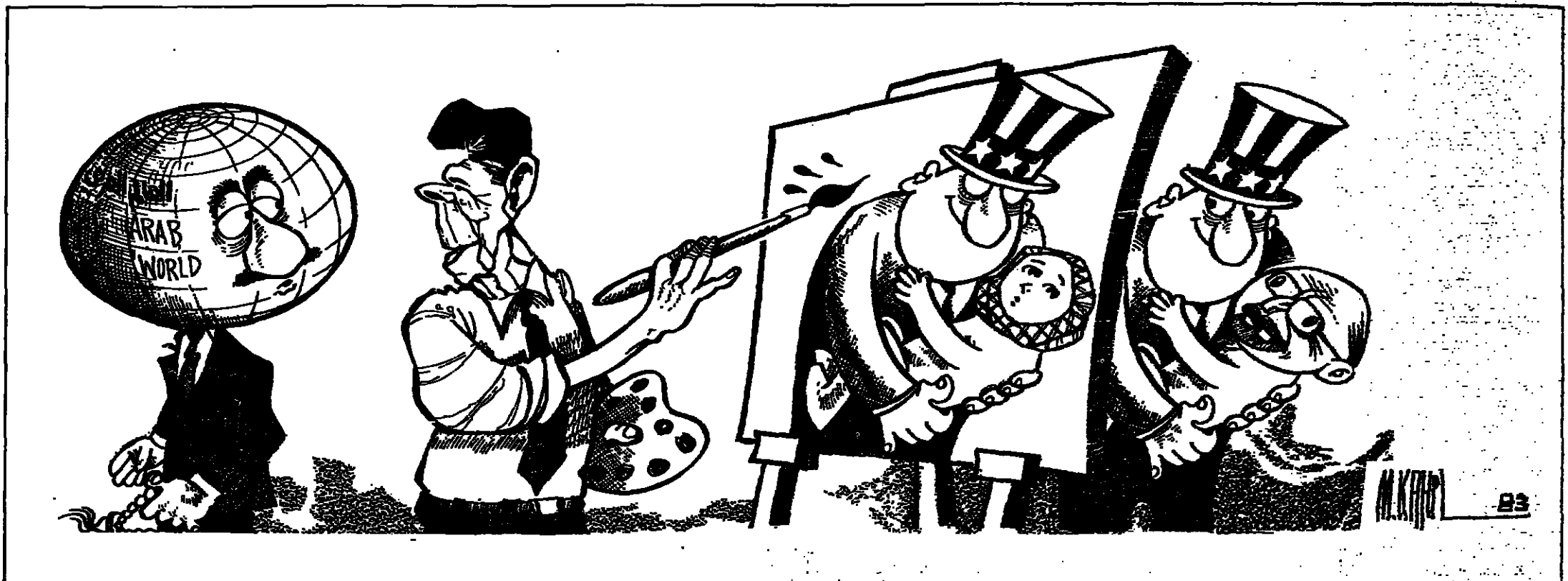
On the other hand, the conduct of the British government has been a cause for cheerlessness. It has demonstrated capacity for self-deceit that we thought was confined to the New World. It has also revealed an ability to play games that contrasts glaringly with its

no-nonsense approach to life and matters in other parts of the world. One concludes, sadly but inevitably, that European protestations of an inability to make a substantial contribution to the Middle East peace-making industry are correct; and, therefore, one also asks: If there is no capacity in the Kingdom of Iron to promote an Arab-Israeli peace, why should this be compounded by a display of political cowardice — dare we say it? — intellectual terror?

And so, in the end, the compromise was made and the meetings took place. So what? Will Mrs. Thatcher now face her people and advise them that she has established one principle for Zimbabwe and the South Atlantic and a separate principle for the people of Palestine? Will she feel better in the knowledge that she did not have to receive an "official" PLO representative? Isn't this rather silly, in view of the fact that lower level British officials routinely meet with

those same "official" PLO members whom Mrs. Thatcher refused to receive?

One could cheer all this up to British eccentricity, or to the fact that as spring approaches the minds of young men and Anglo-Saxon leaders start to drift into a world of dreams and goblins. I would blame it on a tradition of double standards among Western political leaders, who routinely exclude the Palestinians from their professions of a desire to see the principles of freedom and self-determination applied to all people. When this law has to be camouflaged under the guise of procedural niceties that are in themselves a jumble of contradictions, one loses even more hope than ever that Europe can offer a substantive counterforce to the destructive policies of Washington. The PLO wants to make peace. Why is Margaret Thatcher afraid of it? Was her capacity for resoluteness and forthrightness exhausted in the South Atlantic last year?



Syria's attitude getting increasingly pragmatic

By Paul Eedle
 Reuter

DAMASCUS — Syria will probably accept an agreement on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon which allows a limited Israeli role in security arrangements in south Lebanon and a token amount of Israeli-Lebanese trade, diplomats here believe.

Syria has 40,000 troops in Lebanon and 6,000 Palestinian guerrillas are based behind their lines. Syrian approval of any Israeli-Lebanese agreement is vital if an overall accord is to be reached on the withdrawal of all Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian forces from Lebanon.

Both Western and Non-aligned diplomats believe Syria's priorities are to remove the threat posed to its own security by Israeli troops in south Lebanon, and to prevent Lebanon establishing normal relations with Israel as Egypt did when it signed a separate peace treaty with the Jewish state in 1979. They say that if a Lebanese-Israeli agreement is

reached which satisfies these aims, Syria will probably not ruin it by objecting to minor concessions.

The diplomats said it was impossible to tell in advance exactly where the Damascus government would draw the line. But they said private and public statements by Syrian officials left room for some flexibility on the two key issues causing problems in talks between Lebanese, Israeli and U.S. negotiators which started in December.

These are Israel's demand to keep troops at observation posts in south Lebanon to prevent the return of Palestinian guerrillas, and its insistence on an open border and other symbols of normal relations with Lebanon. Israeli troops have been in Lebanon since they invaded last June to attack guerrillas. The Syrians have had forces there since 1976 when they intervened to stop a civil war.

The diplomats said Syria's chief concern appeared to be to remove the direct military threat to its own territory from the 20,000 or more Israeli troops now holding the southern third of Lebanon, in some places entrenched along the Syr-

ian border within artillery range of Damascus. They were certain that Syria would flatly reject any idea of Israeli troops remaining in Lebanon after a withdrawal.

President Hafez Al Assad made this clear in a speech to the Non-aligned summit conference in New Delhi earlier this month in which he also listed reconnaissance flights and the designation of certain areas in Arab states as "security zones" — something Israel wants in South Lebanon — as unacceptable violations of Arab sovereignty.

Readiness

But the diplomats said the Syrians had also repeatedly stated their readiness to withdraw all their troops from Lebanon on condition that the Israelis pulled out completely and they had recently made efforts to show understanding for the problems faced by the government in Beirut.

The diplomats did not believe Mr. Assad would break his public commitment merely because, for instance, a small number of Israeli officers moved through south Lebanon as members of the joint

Israeli-Lebanese-U.S. military commission now being proposed by Washington instead of the Israeli-manned observation posts.

They said any such arrangements would probably have to be kept out of the text of any Israeli-Lebanese agreement, either left verbal or put in a discreet exchange of letters. The diplomats said they detected a similarly pragmatic Syrian attitude to the question of trade between Israel and Lebanon.

They noted that Syria had not stopped imports from Lebanon because of the goods that have been flooding across the border with Israel since late last year, while other Arab states, such as Saudi Arabia and Jordan, had imposed wide-ranging bans.

The key for the Syrians is that the eventual outcome is markedly different from Camp David. One Western envoy said. The U.S.-negotiated Camp David accords between Egypt and Israel in 1978 paved the way for the 1979 peace treaty and are in Syrian eyes the symbol of Arab treachery and U.S. support for Israel.

He said that, as in the case of the

security arrangements, he did not believe the Syrians would block an agreement for the sake of strictly limited trade in a restricted number of goods.

Syrian agreement

A Non-aligned diplomat commented, "I think Assad will come round if the solution is honourable enough," he said, predicting Syrian agreement to a Lebanese-Israeli accord, "so long as they are assured of military security for their country and so long as there is no danger of an Israeli attack on Damascus."

But the diplomats said Syria was well placed to remain in Lebanon if it disapproved of any agreement reached by the Lebanese and Israelis. The Syrian troops in Lebanon are suffering few casualties, unlike the Israelis, who are coming under almost daily attack from Palestinian guerrillas and their Lebanese allies.

The only area where the Syrians face serious problems is in the northern port of Tripoli, scene of frequent gunbattles between pro and anti-Syrian armed groups. But even there the Syrians have limited their involvement by withdrawing most of their forces from the city and leaving posts only on the outskirts.

The diplomats also report that the Soviet Union has now more than made up for all the missiles, tanks and other ground equipment lost by the Syrian army in the war against Israel in Lebanon. If the huge number of planes lost by Syria has not yet been replaced, the diplomats believe they will be soon.

Israel's destruction of most of Syria's air defence system in eastern Lebanon and on the Syrian border has been offset by the installation of a new system, including long-range Sam-5 rockets never before deployed outside the Soviet Union.

The diplomats said the new equipment had probably restored the Syrian's morale and had certainly made it possible for them to play a waiting game if necessary. But it had not put them in a position where they could hope to take on Israel and win and the diplomats believed Syria would continue to try to avoid any renewal of full-scale fighting.

OPEC's new benchmark gives only breathing space

By Thomas Thomson
 Reuter

BAHRAIN — A historic OPEC agreement this week to cut oil prices by \$5 a barrel is looking vulnerable as pressure grows almost daily for further reductions, oil analysts say. The agreement on a new benchmark price of \$29 a barrel has given the oil producers' group only a breathing space which could be short-lived, and all eyes are now on Britain to see whether the price of North Sea crude is further reduced.

Analysts in the Gulf and major Western capitals believe that a modest British cut will come soon, possibly next week. Oil ministers of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) hammered out their accord after a mammoth negotiating session in London, called to prevent a price-cutting war that analysts believe would have sent prices down sharply.

OPEC's greatest threat now comes from the British North Sea,

whose high-quality crude competes directly with output from one of the weakest links in the OPEC chain — Nigeria. Britain helped to trigger OPEC's gravest-ever crisis when it proposed to oil companies last month a \$3 a barrel cut in its price to \$30.50 to revive flagging output in the glutted market.

Nigeria, beset by severe budgetary problems, responded to the proposed British cut by unilaterally slashing its tariffs by \$5.50 a barrel to \$30.

Gulf analysts said OPEC could face something like a rerun of that scenario within days as British Petroleum (BP), one of the major North Sea oil companies, has forecast a further drop in British prices, probably to about \$29.50 a barrel. Some London analysts, however, expect a price of between \$29.50 and \$30.

Under the OPEC agreement, which made the first cut in the world reference price since the oil market a decade ago, Nigeria was allowed to keep its price at

\$30 until the market crisis abated. Algeria and Libya, which pump similar high-quality crude but face less severe financial problems, set their prices at \$30.50 a barrel.

Floating output

The deal was underpinned by a production-sharing agreement under which 12 members were allocated quotas and the other, Saudi Arabia, agreed to allow its output to float to accommodate market demand within an overall 17.5 million barrels daily ceiling.

Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ahmed Zaki Yamani indicated at a press conference in London after the OPEC meeting that Britain had 50 cents leeway on prices from its proposed \$30.50, and below that level a price war might follow. B.P. chairman Peter Walters said March 18 that he thought North Sea oil should be \$0 to 75 cents cheaper or even \$1.25 a barrel on the proposed new British price.

But he said it was important to give the OPEC agreement a cha-

nge to work, and hinted that B.P. was moderating its demands for a new cut in the price of North Sea oil due to international political considerations. He said it would be self-defeating for producers such as Nigeria and Britain to chase each other's prices downwards. Gulf analysts said they felt that on balance a British cut was now more likely than not. A senior OPEC source said in London this week that Britain had warned the group that a cut in the OPEC key price to below \$29.50 a barrel would certainly mean a competing North Sea reduction.

"OPEC is now facing a potential crisis which could be just as severe as the one the ministers thought they had resolved," one analyst in the Gulf said Friday. But the analysts stressed that it would be prudent for Britain to hold off any planned action at least for some days to assess the overall market reaction to the OPEC accord.

OPEC has already drawn up battle plans for a further British price cut below \$30.50. Delegates

said Nigeria would call an immediate OPEC meeting to devise a new strategy for defending sales if Britain reduced its price by 50 cents. But a reduction of over 50 cents would mean another unilateral price cut by Lagos, and plunge the exporter group deeper into crisis.

Critical factor

While the British decision remained the most critical factor, the analysts noted that OPEC was facing price pressure from other quarters.

Rotterdam traders on the spot or non-contract oil market said this week that buyers of Soviet Urals crude had been offered a \$1.25 a barrel price reduction. And Egypt, another non-OPEC exporter, trimmed its prices by \$2 a barrel, bringing it into line with the slightly superior Urals crude after its latest reduction.

The analysts said that even if OPEC prices survived a modest British price cut, the outlook for the future did not augur well for maintaining the \$29 benchmark.

OPEC production has fallen to around 14 million barrels daily from a 1979 peak of about 31 million, and analysts said no rebound in demand was in sight. Thus pressure on OPEC members to offer discounts to grab a bigger share of the shrunken market would remain intense, they said.

That in turn could revive threats by the Gulf states to challenge those not honouring the rules to a price war that Saudi Arabia and its allies alone have the financial muscle to win, they added. A production agreement to defend the former \$34 key price agreed a year ago collapsed when other members took advantage of Saudi Arabia's determination to protect the benchmark.

The OPEC crisis has followed a slump in demand for crude combined with growing output from non-OPEC exporters like Britain and Mexico. One bright point remains an undertaking by Mexico, whose economy would be among those worst affected by a price war, that it will not undercut prices, the analysts said.

Brazil's 'scourged ones' face drought, famine and poverty

By James Poole
Reuter

FORTALEZA, BRAZIL — A baby girl lies in a cot in a creche looking up with large, appealing brown eyes.

She looks only one or two months old, but has already had her first birthday. Her development, both physical and mental, has been severely retarded by an inadequate diet.

Her mother, one of the legions of Brazilian poor who do not earn enough to eat properly, had fed her on just rice, beans and maize until her admission to the nursery in Fortaleza recently.

The child is lucky in one respect. Her atrophied brain has suffered irreparable damage, but she is still alive. Thousands of others die before the age of two.

Fortaleza is the capital of Ceara, one of the nine states in the impoverished Brazilian northeast suffering from a four-year drought which has caused a rural exodus to the towns.

The baby girl is just one of millions of poverty-stricken, undernourished, uneducated children throughout Brazil.

Eduardo de Castro Bezerra Netto, President of the Child Welfare Foundation of Ceara, estimates that about 30 million children under 18 are in need of care and protection in Brazil — about 25 per cent of the country's population.

Mr. Bezerra told Reuters that only 600,000 of those 30 million receive some form of attention.

Poverty in Brazil is widespread throughout the interior and on the periphery of fast-growing cities such as Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo where the poor converge and set up shanty towns.

The urban problems are exacerbated by peasants, many coming from the drought-stricken interior in the search for jobs, and

others who invade towns looking for a better life.

Ceara and the other northeastern states are as poor in places as the poorest African nations, despite Brazil's status of a newly industrialised developing country. Most of the riches of industrialisation have been confined to the centre and south.

Ceara has six million inhabitants, of which two million under the age of 18 are in need of care and protection. Some 500,000 of these are in Fortaleza. But Mr. Bezerra admits that his work today only scrapes the surface of the problem. In the whole of Ceara state only 36,000 children under 18 receive any form of attention, or one for every 55 in need of care.

Up to half those in care have mental problems brought on by malnutrition.

The infant mortality rate in the poor areas of Fortaleza is high. "Around 50 per cent of children die before the age of two," Mr. Bezerra said.

Few poor people practise family planning.

"It's the low income groups that have the most children, some five or 10," Mr. Bezerra said.

"The education of the mother determines the size of the family, and these women have little education," he added.

Some 30,000 people live in the shanty towns of Mucuripe in the centre of Fortaleza. The child welfare foundation cares for many youngsters in a creche there run by qualified staff.

A nurse shows photographs of two children admitted as skinny babies a year ago and shows the same children in their coats today. They look healthy physically, but are retarded mentally.

"Hundreds more like them die without assistance," Mr. Bezerra said.

A local orphanage has 20 or 30 children from the age of seven

upwards. Most look happy, although they appear not fully developed for their age. "Many children of seven and eight have a mental age of four due to malnutrition," Mr. Bezerra said.

Two particular cases stood out. One girl of about 10 repeatedly covered her face with her hands and cried under her bed at night. She had been recently abandoned by her parents.

Another girl was most affectionate and hugged everybody. She used to be aggressive but her personality changed when two dead flies and larvae were found in her ear during an examination.

Some children in Mucuripe are placed locally with substitute mothers and receive medical care at the creche.

Once the children are six, they must go to other care centres where they can stay, if necessary, until the age of 18. "The problem in the end is that few ever want to leave," said one welfare worker.

Rosalina Souza, a strong woman in her forties, is a substitute mother who lives near the creche in Mucuripe. She herself had 10 children, four of whom died.

Rosalina remembers days from her childhood when she lived in the interior of Ceara state with her parents and rain was plentiful. "Now it's dry. It does not rain because of our sins," she says philosophically.

RECIFE, BRAZIL — In a middle class suburb of Recife, a city of a million people in the poverty-stricken Brazilian northeast, the hungry poor sift endlessly through rubbish tips in search of food.

By a stinking canal where pigs rummage through piles of refuse stands a ramshackle shanty town where undernourished, half-naked children play among makeshift huts built of planks.

Some 50 metres away a property broker sells luxury apart-

ments in newly-built 14-storey block.

Such contrasts are found in every big Brazilian city but are more stark in the nine drought-ridden northeastern states.

The northeast is in parts as poor as some of Africa's most underprivileged regions and covers a huge area — France, Spain, West Germany and Italy would fit into it comfortably.

In the last four years it has reeled under the worst drought in its history, affecting 11 million people and an area of 1.1 million square km. Valfrido Salmato Filho, head of the government's northeastern development superintendency (Sudene), told Reuters.

The drought has forced 3.5 million inhabitants of the northeast to the more prosperous industrial south in search of jobs, Mr. Salmato said.

In a normal year the rainy season runs from January to April. This produces sufficient rice, maize and kidney beans for a subsistence farmer with goats and chickens to last the year through, said agronomist Jorge Coelho.

The drought has interrupted this cycle. In the interior of Pernambuco state, locals say it rained only twice last year, wrecking the delicate survival pattern. In other areas people cannot remember when it last rained.

It rained well in February in several areas of the interior, turning the scrubland green almost overnight. But more is needed to save the crops this year.

A study by the air ministry's technological centre showed that drought in the northeast runs in 26-year cycles. If so, this drought may end in 1985.

Even if it does, churchmen say the lack of rain has only exacerbated the poverty and malnutrition existing in normal years. "What is chronic worsens during



Shanty towns have sprung up on the outskirts of large cities as peasants leave the drought-stricken interior

the drought, the people go hungry," a bishop in the interior told Reuters.

Lack of food, appalling living conditions and the deaths of their children are the lot of the peasants in the interior, known to Brazilians as "los flagelados" — the scourged ones. Their life expectancy is 10 years less than the national average, infant mortality is 12 per cent.

Nearly 44 per cent of the region's adults are illiterate as compared with a national average of 24 per cent, 27 per cent of its workers are unemployed.

The poor in their mud and wood huts also face the ever-present menace of the barber bug which transmits a lethal disease called chagas.

The social system dates from colonial times with four per cent of landowners possessing half the land.

During the drought, the peasants turn to government-run work programmes building dams or drilling wells for about 11,000 cruzeiros (\$29) per month. Many emigrate to the south, but return when they hear of rains in their native backlands, drawn by deep ties to the inhospitable soil.

Mr. Salmato admitted that the authorities spent little money on the northeast compared with

other regions.

"Only eight to 15 per cent of the money applied in Brazil goes to the northeast where 30 per cent of the population live," he said.

But he denied allegations by churchmen and opposition politicians that the drought was a money-generating "industry" and that the funds were largely used for private profit.

"I can assure you that 90 per cent of the money is invested correctly, although up to 10 per cent may get misused at a local level. It's impossible to keep a complete check on how each cruzeiro is spent," he said.

While experts argue over whe-

ther large-scale irrigation from deep and costly wells is a feasible solution for the area's problems. Sudene builds dams and wells and sends water trucks deep into the interior.

It had 850 projects in the pipeline to keep the northeast economy going in years of drought, said Mr. Salmato.

He spoke of the great drought of 1877, in which half of the northeast population and two thirds of its cattle died.

Compared with that, he said, the success of the Sudene over the last four years was that it had kept the worker in the interior going at all.

U.K. Irish say they are target of 'cheap racism'

By Bette O'Connor
Reuter

LONDON — The Irish in Britain, who form the country's largest ethnic community, were finding it harder to smile when St. Patrick's day came around this year.

They believe they are unfairly made scapegoats for the actions of extremists in northern Ireland and occasionally in Britain, and dislike the British penchant for "Irish jokes" that depict them as stupid.

Things are not as bad as in the 1940s when "no Irish need apply" signs hung outside British factories and flats in the wake of bombing campaigns by an earlier generation of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) fighting British rule in Northern Ireland.

But it can still be very difficult to be Irish in Britain, according to Irish organisations working with the community.

"Anyone proud to be Irish is often suspect, especially if he expresses his pride. He is thought to somehow secretly favour violence," Pat Delaney, a founder member of the Irish in Britain Representation Group, told Reuters.

"Ireland is Britain's nearest neighbour but the country the British know the least about. The image of the stereotype Irishman as drunken, violent, and stupid is still presented in so-called Irish jokes," he said.

Mr. Delaney added: "Racism is not just directed against the colour of someone's skin. Stories which depend for their efforts on the assumption that the Irish are congenitally morose are not jokes or funny but a cheap form of racism."

Feeling against the Irish has increased in Britain since the IRA resumed its campaign of violence in Northern Ireland in 1969. Since then 366 British soldiers have lost their lives in the strife-torn province.

Last year two IRA bombs exploded in London's Hyde Park and Regent's Park killing 11 soldiers on ceremonial duties and injuring scores of civilians. A conservative member of parliament, Ivor Stannbrook, said at the time: "Without a sea of expatriate Irishmen in which to swim, the IRA would never escape detection in Britain."

According to the British-based

Irish National Council, the British perception when under pressure is that the half a million Irish in Britain are by nature nationalists and therefore republicans and thus it follows that they harbour IRA sentiments and even protect the organisation.

"This feeling is not always expressed, but somehow it's latent," said the council, which believes the Northern Ireland problem is the fundamental cause of the current poor state of Anglo-Irish relations.

The council's aim is to raise the level of debate and work towards the peaceful unification of Ireland.

Jim McGrath, of the Federation of Irish Societies, said the Irish felt particularly vulnerable since the introduction of the Prevention of Terrorism Act in 1974.

The act, under which people can be held for seven days and excluded from Britain, was introduced after an IRA bomb killed 21 people in the English Midlands city of Birmingham in 1974.

British as well as Irish groups point out that in the last nine years 5,500 people, mainly Irish, have

been held under the act and just 78 convicted. In submissions to a government review they described it as anti-Irish rather than anti-terrorist.

In a vote in parliament earlier this month to retain the act, the opposition Labour Party broke with more than seven years of cross-party consensus and voted against it.

Irish groups are also concerned at demands by some members of parliament in the ruling Conservative Party to end voting rights for the Irish.

Home Secretary William Whitelaw rejected vociferous calls for this at a party conference last year but said he would set up an all-party committee to examine the issue.

The demands to disenfranchise the half-a-million Irish in Britain grew after Ireland refused to back British sanctions against Argentina during the Falklands war last year. The Irish government said this was in keeping with its neutrality policy.

Irish groups are also angry at the sale in some British shops of what they describe as anti-Irish

material such as mugs with the handles inside. T-shirt with the word Irish misspelt and "Irish acupuncture sets," with nails.

Joan Inglis, a teacher who spent a year examining the causes of these attitudes, lays the blame on ideas that have lingered since the days of British rule in Ireland, which became independent in 1920 with the exception of the six northern counties that make up Northern Ireland.

Writing in the journal Irish Studies in Britain, she said: "Colonial rule was built on the theory of superiority and inferiority. The major characteristics attributed to the Irish — ignorance, disharmony and propensity to violence — remained prominent in the British image for over 600 years."

But Irish groups said the Irish themselves were also to blame for this flawed image. "We have kept our heads down because it isn't popular to be Irish," said Seamus Carey, of the Irish in Britain group. "We should build cultural and political communication with the British and stop being afraid to give our views."

Discrimination lingers in Japan

By Ikko Anai
Reuter

KYOTO, Japan — Descendants of Japan's former caste of untouchables say they still face discrimination in employment and marriage nearly a century after untouchability was outlawed.

"Many people don't regard us as human beings," laments one of the estimated three million of the caste's descendants. "A really difficult problem is how to wipe discriminatory ideas from people's minds."

The latest public opinion poll conducted by the Kyoto city hall showed that nearly 40 per cent of those surveyed thought, incorrectly, that the untouchables' descendants were racially different from the Japanese.

The survey indicated that most people thought the caste's descendants were most often discriminated against in marriage, with employment second.

"A 'liberation league' has been formed by some members of the minority to fight discrimination."

The caste's origins date from

the ninth century, when Buddhists, who forbade the killing of animals, designated a group of people to bury the carcasses of cattle and horses and to run the leather industry.

The descendants of the group, many of whom still work in the leather industry, tend to live in neighbourhoods which were once untouchables' ghettos or "buraku."

Kyoto, a city of 1.5 million inhabitants, has 12 buraku communities where a total of 17,000 people live.

In the past the buraku alleys were too narrow for fire engines, and most houses had no toilets.

In 1969 the central government introduced a nationwide programme to improve the minority's living conditions. But despite lavish spending, the attitudes of some Japanese are slow to change.

Sociologists partly blame the discrimination against buraku people on a Japanese tradition whereby some parents and employers commission detective to look into the social status of prospective in-laws or employees.

Despite strong protests from the anti-discrimination league, 10

guidebooks published in recent years list the exact locations of all Japan's buraku, most of them in the west of the country.

More than 100 big companies are known to have bought the guides. In response to liberation league criticism, some company executives, including a group in Kyoto, have set up special panels to shed light on the plight of the buraku people.

Agitation by the liberation league also helped bring about the 1969 legislation on improving buraku areas.

Between 1969 and 1982, the central government gave subsidies worth almost 2,000 billion yen (\$8 billion) to improve 4,570 buraku districts with a total of 1.15 million residents.

But the league said more than 1,000 buraku communities remain unaffected by the relief measures.

Justice ministry statistics show complaints about human rights violations by buraku members have risen from 17,700 reported cases in 1970 to 50,000 in 1975 and nearly 60,000 in 1981. But there is no law in Japan to punish offenders.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:30 Koran
17:50 Cartoons
18:10 Heidi
18:25 Documentary
18:40 Local Programme
19:00 Programme on Sports
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:30 Local Programme
22:15 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in Hebrew
19:30 News in Arabic
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Movie of the Week: The Streets of L.A. * Joanne Woodward, Robert Walker

21:00 News in English
22:15 Dallas: Aftermath

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM
& party on 95.60 KHz, SW

07:10 Morning Show
08:00 News Summary
09:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
11:00 News Summary
12:00 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
14:00 Pop Session
15:00 News Bulletin
16:10 Instrumentals
16:30 In Concert
17:00 Concert Hour
18:00 News Summary
19:00 Instrumentals, Old Favorites
20:00 News Report
21:00 News Summary
22:00 Evening Show
23:00 News Summary
24:00 News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

Midweek News: 06:30 Voices to Remember 06:45 Financial News 06:55 Ref-

lections 07:00 World News 07:09 24 Hours News Summary 07:30 What's New 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsline 08:30 Live from the World 09:00 World News 09:30 The World Today 09:45 Network U.K. 10:00 World News 10:45 Reflections 10:15 The World of U.K. 10:30 Arranged for the Piano 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Discovery 12:15 Lord Hawke's Musical Musing 12:30 Rock Solid 13:00 World News 13:09 News about Britain 13:15 Letter from London 13:25 Scotland This Week 13:30 Sports Collection 14:00 Radio Newcastle 14:15 Sports Chamber Music 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours News Summary 15:30 Network U.K. 15:45 A Jolly Good Show 16:30 Men and a Girl 17:00 Radio Newcastle 17:15 Outlook 18:00 Pageant of the Past 18:09 Commentary 18:15 The Thames River Police 18:45 Cricket 19:00 World News 19:09 Meridian 19:40 Scotland This Week 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 World News 20:09 News about Britain 20:15 Radio Newcastle 20:30 Nature Notebook 20:40 Farming World 21:00 News Summary 21:40 Look Ahead 21:45 The Fred Wood Collection 22:00 World News 22:09 24 Hours News Summary 22:30 Voices to Remember 22:45 Men and a Girl 23:15 Letter from London 23:25 Paperback Choice 23:30 Rock Solid 24:00 World News 24:09 The World Today 24:15 Scotland This Week 24:20 Reflections 09:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News 01:09 Commentary 01:15 Latin '83 01:30 Meridian

VOICE OF AMERICA

1260, 9965, 7200, 12525, 11725

05:00 Daybreak 07:00 The Breakfast Show 17:00 News Roundup Reports, opinions, analyses 17:30 VOA Magazine: American, science, culture, letters 18:00 Special English News 18:10 Special English Science and technology 18:15 Feature: Science in the News 18:30 News Magazine 22:00 News Roundup 23:30 Science 24:00 Special English News 24:10 Special English Report 24:15 Special English Feature 24:30 Now Music USA 24:00 News Roundup: reports, opinion, analyses 21:30 VOA Magazine 22:00 Special English News 22:15 Music USA (Jazz) 22:30 VOA World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* These exhibitions are on at the French Cultural Centre:
"Acrylics and gouaches" by Nicole Massin.
"Jean-Jacques Rousseau"
* Agricultural exhibition at the University of Jordan.

FILM

* "Das Messer im Ruecken" at the Goethe Institute at 8:00 p.m.

VIDEO

* CBS Evening News, at the American Centre at 4:00 and 7:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre ... Tel. 669026
American Centre ... 41520
British Council ... 36147-8
French Cultural Centre ... 37009
Goethe Institute ... 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre ... 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre ... 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre ... 39777
Hays Art Centre ... 665195
Hebrew Youth City ... 667181
Y.W.C.A. ... 664251
Amman Municipal Library ... 36111
University of Jordan Library ... 84355

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has a excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and

COLLECTION OF PAINTINGS BY 19TH CENTURY ORIENTALIST ARTISTS

Mintazah, Jabal Leuwidish. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 37166.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37166.

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Tyches Hotel. 1:30 p.m.

Lions Philadelphian Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Marriott Hotel. 1:30 p.m.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic). De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Hussein, 661757.

Church of the Assumption (Greek Orthodox). Abadi, 23541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer). Jabal Amman, 43453.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafiah, 71331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafiah, 75261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox). Ashrafiah, 71751.

Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsiah, 663249.

PRAYER TIMES

04:14 Fajr
05:37 (Sunrise) Shuruq
12:39 Dhuhr
15:12 'Asr
17:49 Maghrib
19:13 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Air Jordan. Information department at Amman Airport. Tel. 22205-6, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

06:45 Cairo (EA)
08:45 Cairo (RU)
09:45 Cairo (RU)
09:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RU)
09:45 Jeddah (RU)
09:45 Dhahran (RU)
09:45 Kuwait (RU)
09:45 Beirut (RU)
10:15 Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
11:00 Cairo (EA)
13:40 Kuwait (KAC)
14:00 Bucharest, Istanbul (RU)
14:00 Larzaca (RU)
16:30 Cairo (RU)
16:55 Frankfurt, Geneva (RU)
17:15 New York, Vienna (RU)
17:30 London, Paris (RU)
17:45 Madrid, Tripoli (RU)
18:00 Rome (Alitalia)
18:30 Cairo (RU)
19:00 Amsterdam, Athens (KLM)
19:00 Copenhagen, Athens (SKM)
19:45 Cairo (EA)
19:45 Karachi (LI)
20:05 Beirut (MEA)
20:25 Frankfurt, Damascus (LIH)
22:00 Damascus (RU)
00:30 Cairo (RU)
00:35 Baghdad (RU)
01:45 Cairo (EA)

DEPARTURES

04:45 Damascus (RU

SPORTS

Olympic chiefs prepare to wrestle with Los Angeles games problems

NEW DELHI (R)—Olympic officials meeting here this week are expected to criticise an apparent stall in plans for next year's Los Angeles games. Olympic sources said Monday.

Three sports — board sailing, shooting and soccer — will be under particular scrutiny when the executive board of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) convenes on Wednesday and Thursday. These meetings will be followed by a three-day IOC session attended by more than 70 delegates from 60 countries.

The executive board's most immediate concern will be arrangements for the Los Angeles games, on which the games organising committee (LAOC) will present a progress report on Thursday.

With a number of key questions still to be decided, the IOC was reported to be critical of LAOC President Peter Ueberroth's decision not to attend the New Delhi meetings. IOC sources could recall no previous occasion when the head of a games organising committee had declined to attend a full IOC session in a pre-Olympic year.

The two crucial issues for Los Angeles are whether board sailing can be salvaged from a long legal

wrangle which threatens its place in the programme, and where the shooting events will be staged.

There was no immediate indication here that any progress had been made since the previous executive board meeting in Los Angeles two months ago and LAOC officials said they were under instructions to make no comment.

The controversy over board sailing, included in the games for the first time, stems from a legal battle between two rival equipment manufacturers. This was resolved late last year in a compromise allowing one manufacturer to provide boards for the Olympic event and the second to supply equipment for a special demonstration competition.

But the arrangement required the LAOC to submit to the IOC a written request for the demonstration event to be staged and there was no indication that this had been done.

The IOC ruled in January that board sailing would be dropped from the games if the compromise arrangement was not implemented. The secretary-general of the International Yacht Racing Union, Nigel Hacking, warned in London last week that board sailing's place as an Olympic sport was in jeopardy.

The problem of the shooting

venue also appears unresolved after the IOC rejected an LAOC proposal to stage the events in Las Vegas because no suitable site could be located in the Los Angeles area.

The IOC was reluctant to expand the number of events taking place outside the Los Angeles area and pointed out that holding the shooting in Las Vegas would require a fourth games village, which was unacceptable.

Growing acrimony over the shooting prompted a press report that the International Shooting Union President, Olegario Vazquez Rana, had threatened legal action against the Los Angeles organisers, though this was quickly denied in a statement by the IOC.

The games organisers were asked by the IOC to find an alternative venue before the New Delhi meetings and at a press conference in Los Angeles last month Vazquez Rana said about 50 possible sites would be inspected.

But shooting union secretary-general Horst Schreiber said in Munich last week that no new site had been found. There was a growing feeling here that the IOC might eventually have to accept the Las Vegas venue.

Proposals aimed at allowing

certain professional players to take part in the 1984 Olympic soccer finals also foundered when the IOC and the International Football Federation (FIFA) failed to agree at a joint meeting in Switzerland earlier this month.

With the qualifying tournament already under way, the IOC was unable to accept FIFA's proposals to allow professional players to compete in the games on condition they had not played in the World Cup and had no commitments to endorse sportswear products.

The soccer proposals will be considered this week by the IOC's eligibility commission which will also look at the possibility of allowing professional tennis players to take part in the 1988 Olympic tournament in Seoul.

As part of a plan to reform its former strictly amateur code, the IOC has asked the various sports federations to submit their eligibility rules for closer study.

The Olympic authorities will be paying particular attention to the regulations of the International Amateur Athletic Federation, who govern the premier sport of the games, which ruled last year that athletes could earn "participation" money for competing in specially licensed meetings.

Switzerland clashes with Scotland on March 30

ZURICH (R)—Swiss coach Paul Wolfisberg has named a familiar-looking squad for the crucial European Soccer Championship Group One match against Scotland in Glasgow on March 30.

The Swiss, who beat Scotland 2-0 in Bern last November, bring back injury-ridden Gian-Pietro Zappa, the burly Zurich sweeper, but have lost midfielder Umberto Barberis, who plays for French first division champions Monaco.

Striker Claudio Sulser, now recovered from an ankle operation in January, has scored in each of his two games since his return. But he was strangely lethargic when Grasshopper, the reigning champions, were demolished 5-1 by sixth-placed St Gallen, last weekend.

Sulser, who scored a brilliant goal and made the second in 13 internationals.

Swiss football's exciting new star, Servette striker Jean-Paul Brigger, is also in the squad. He has scored nine goals in his last five matches, and now tops the first division goal-scoring table with 12 goals, one more than Sulser.

Switzerland have developed into one of the most exciting sides in Europe since Wolfisberg took over early in 1981, losing only three away matches in 18 inter-

national matches. But their European Championship challenge started disastrously, with a 3-0 drubbing by Belgium in the opening match in Brussels last October.

That defeat probably spelled the end of the international career of captain Rene Botteron, now with West German Bundesliga club Nuernberg, who has not been recalled to the national squad since.

Meanwhile, Glasgow Celtic's Charlie Nicholas, the deadliest striker in British soccer, could make his international debut for Scotland against Switzerland.

The 21-year-old, who has scored over 40 goals this season, was one of two newcomers included in Jock Stein's 18-man squad Monday.

Dundee United fullback Richard Gough also forced his way into the party but he is unlikely to gain his first cap as team-mate David Narey has made the Scottish number two shirt his own since taking over from Danny McGrain during the World Cup.

Stein has also recalled three players who have been out of the picture for some time—Aberdeen winger Peter Weir, who gained his four previous caps over three years ago, St Mirren goalkeeper Billy Thomson and Tottenham's new signing Alan Brazil.

TENNIS TALK

Use a backboard to your advantage

By Maureen Stallis

BJORN BORG, Billie Jean King and Arthur Ashe owe a great deal of their success to their garage doors. Indeed a backboard is an excellent practice device. My coach often told me not to come to him for my lesson until I had hit one hundred balls non-stop against the wall.

The backboard should not be used carelessly by beginners. At this stage, stroke technique is of primary importance and the ball rebounds too fast for the student to concentrate properly on his backswing, ball contact, and finish. Beginners should drop and hit to the board; check their stroke, weight transfer, and follow-through then catch the ball and repeat.

Intermediate and advanced players can find their rhythm, footwork, and consistency with a board. Stand a distance from the board where you can hit the ball after one bounce. Start off by hitting one stroke, forehands, at the same pace. Remember, the board won't miss. If you slam the ball at it, it will be slammed back at you and your rhythm will be thrown off. Make smooth, even, identical strokes. Then start hitting at angles so that you hit backhands and forehands alternately. Be aware of your footwork and be sure your racket is back well before you reach the ball.

To practice your volley, stand four metres from the board and try to keep any ball from getting past you. Move back one metre for your low volleys and half volleys. Your stroke should be a firm block with perhaps a little slice on it.

After volleys, play points, serve the ball and be sure to clear the net line by about a meter; hit the rebounding ground stroke, and come in to volley. Play a set against the board. If you hit the ball over the net line 5 times in a row, you win the point.

One can make a great deal of progress by practising against a board. But it must be done with acute awareness of what you are trying to accomplish. The board is steady, reliable, and darn good, if a bit lacking in personality.

Ethiopia unveils another world-beating runner

GATESHEAD, England (R)—Ethiopia unveiled another world-beating runner Sunday when 20-year-old Bekele Debele triumphed over a high-class field in the Men's World Cross Country Championship.

Debele not only defeated the winners of the event for the past five years, he also out-paced the world's two fastest marathon runners, Alberto Salazar of the United States and Australian Rob de Castella.

In addition he finished in front of last year's winner, Mohammad Kadir, and Olympic 5,000 and 10,000 metres champion Miruts Yifter, his far better known compatriots.

Ethiopia duly won the men's title for the third successive year with the star-studded American side forced to settle for second place ahead of another major African power, Kenya.

Debele won in most impressive style, edging ahead of 1976 champion Carlos Lopes and Kenyan newcomer Some Munge in a knife-edge finish in which the first three all returned a time of 36

minutes 52 seconds. Salazar was fourth one second behind.

The Ethiopian army private, speaking through an interpreter at a news conference, was disarmingly matter-of-fact about his victory.

Debele, who finished tenth in the junior championships in Rome last year after borrowing a pair of running shoes for the race, said he had only raced competitively for two years.

He said he had been worried about Salazar's sprint but "then the more I watched him the more confident I was".

"I'm very pleased to win but I didn't find the race all that hard," he said.

Spain's Antonio Prieto finished fifth in 36:56 and de Castella was sixth in 37:00. Last year's winner, Kadir, was 22nd but the Ethiopian effort was enough to give them the team title.

From the start all eyes were on the confident Salazar, who had been freely predicting victory for the past few days over the hilly Gateshead course.

Salazar, distinctive in black

tights worn to combat the chilly wind, settled into sixth position, keeping a close watch on de Castella.

Half way through the 12-km race, Debele and Munge were sharing the lead and they continued to set a fierce pace. But at the line victory was decided by a desperate sprint for the line by the leading six runners.

The women's race resulted in a commanding victory for Norway's Grete Waitz who won her fifth title, a total equalled only by U.S. athlete Doris Brown.

Waitz clocked 13 minutes 29 seconds for the four-km course with Alison Wiley of Canada second in 13:37 and Tatjana Pozdnyakova of the Soviet Union third in the same time.

Americans Joan Benoit and Betty Springs finished fourth and fifth to lead the United States to first place in the team event, ahead of the Soviet Union with Canada in third place.

Waitz, determined to avenge her surprise third placing last year, moved easily into third place as Soviet runners exchanged the early lead.

Waitz surged smoothly to the front 500 metres from the finish and the interest switched to an exciting duel between Pozdnyakova and the diminutive Wiley, who just pipped the Soviet runner on the line.

Earlier Ethiopia underlined its

Borg confirms retirement

PARIS (R)—World tennis great Bjorn Borg confirmed Sunday that he would retire from the tournament game after competing in the Monte Carlo Open at the end of the month.

"Tennis was my whole life but I no longer have the faith, the motivation, to continue playing at the highest level," the 26-year-old Swedish star said in a French radio interview.

But Borg said he would continue to play exhibition matches and practice the sport for pleasure after his last professional appearance in the open, which lasts from March 28 to April 3.

One of the richest men in sport, Borg also hinted that he had big plans for the future and had received several propositions for work off the courts.

Borg won the Wimbledon title five times in succession before losing it to American John McEnroe in the 1981 final.

Gabbiani wins Formula Two opener

SILVERSTONE, England (R)—Beppe Gabbiani of Italy won a wet opening round of the European Formula Two Motor Racing Championship Sunday after a dramatic struggle against Stefan Bellof of West Germany.

Gabbiani, 26, led in his works March BMW for most of the race, but Bellof caught him on the penultimate lap of the 47 lap race only to have the throttle cable on his Maurer BMW snap.

Bellof finished fourth behind

Derwall under pressure to restore team's prestige

FRANKFURT, West Germany (R)—West German coach Jupp Derwall, under pressure to restore his team's waning prestige, has dropped long-serving defender Manfred Kaltz for the European Soccer Championship qualifier against Albania on March 30.

Kaltz, 30, and capped 69 times, has missed only two of the European champions' last 50 matches, but Derwall said: "His last performances for club and national team rule out any other decision. Moreover, he has a knee injury."

The West Germans have lost their last two matches—Northern Ireland beat them 1-0 in their opening Group Six match in Belfast last November and understrength Portugal defeated them by the same margin in a friendly in Lisbon last month.

Derwall's squad includes Bernd Schuster, although the player's release by Spanish club Barcelona is uncertain, and midfielder Hans

Mueller, with Inter Milan of Italy. Mueller has received much criticism in Italy but Derwall said he was giving the player the benefit of the doubt.

"I want at least to see him because the reports about him are very contradictory," he said.

Derwall said Uli Stieleke, West Germany's regular sweeper, had told him that Mueller had played much better in the Madrid leg of the European Cupwinners' Cup than he had in Milan. But Real Madrid won the quarter-final 3-2 on aggregate.

Stieleke himself has been refused permission to join the squad for the trip to Albania because Real Madrid need him.

Most blame for West Germany's failures since they lost to Italy in last year's World Cup final has fallen on Derwall's shoulders. But his critics have yet to advise him how he should replace mid-field general Paul Breitner or strikers Horst Hrubesch and Klaus Fischer who all retired after the finals.

His 17-man squad also omits reserve striker Klaus Allofs and midfielder Lothar Matthaus, although Karl-Heinz Rummenigge and Pierre Littbarski still carry the burden up front.

Johnny Otten of Werder Bremen and Wolfgang Roloff of Hamburg, who made their debuts in the Lisbon match, are retained.

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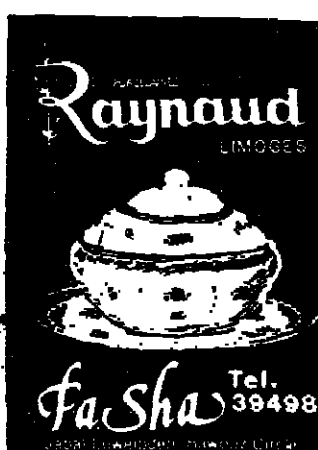
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Jordan Times Tel: 666265



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England recalls Francis for tie against Greece

LONDON (R)—Trevor Francis' six-month exile from international soccer ended Monday when he was named in England's 21-man squad for the European Championship Group Three tie against Greece here on March 30.

Francis, who plays for Italian club Sampdoria, has been missing from the England team since he scored in the 2-2 draw in Denmark last September.

Injuries have robbed manager

Bobby Robson of a clutch of big names including captain Bryan Robson. Tottenham's gifted midfielder Glenn Hoddle and former captain Ray Wilkins of Manchester United have also been left out.

The surprise is the inclusion of "Wilkins" United team-mate Mike Duxbury, who is equally happy at fullback or in central defence.

Turnbull beats Hanika, wins Boston tournament

BOSTON (R)—Australian Wendy Turnbull, blending delicate drop shots with blistering passing winners, beat Sylvia Hanika of West Germany 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 here Sunday to win a \$150,000 women's tennis tournament.

Turnbull collected a first-prize cheque for \$28,000 while Hanika received \$14,000.

The 30-year-old Australian scored the lone service break in the final set when she blasted a

winning drives in the seventh game.

She won the opening set by breaking the 23-year-old Hanika in the 10th game with a fine volley winner.

But the hard-hitting Hanika evened the match by winning four of the last five games in the second set. The West German found her groundstroke touch to break Turnbull's serve in the fifth and ninth games.

British explorer continues pole walk

LONDON (R)—British explorer David Hempelman-Adams resumed his attempt to make the first solo walk to the North Pole Monday after a six-day break.

A plane returned him to the same spot on the arctic ice cap from which he was flown out last Tuesday for kit repairs, the British news agency, the Press Association, reported from base camp at Eureka, Northern Canada.

The 26-year-old Briton set out two weeks ago in temperatures of minus 45 centigrade (minus 49 degrees Fahrenheit) but made little progress in the face of ferocious weather.

He spent four days without radio links and slept for much of the time in only his outdoor clothes after his down sleeping bag was drenched by condensation in his tent and froze solid.

Rogers wins U.S. Golf Classic

NEW ORLEANS (R)—Bill Rogers jumped back on the winning trail Sunday by scoring a three-under-par 69 to clinch the \$400,000 United States Golf Classic by three strokes.

Rogers, who failed to win a tournament last year after being named PGA player of the Year in 1981, collected the top prize of \$72,000.

David Edwards (70), Vance Heafner (69) and Jay Haas (68) shared second place on 277.

Rogers was in control most of the day, bolstered by three birdies in the first six holes which gave

him a five-shot lead. But a bogey for Rogers at the 12th and three birdies by Edwards narrowed the margin to one stroke. Rogers then went on to birdie the 14th and 15th while Edwards bogeyed the same two holes.

The trio in second place collected \$29,866 each. Australian Greg Norman, alone in fifth place on 278, won \$16,000.

"It's a great feeling to win again after not doing it for a while," said Rogers. "It gives me a lot of confidence going into the tournament players championship next week."

Mayer claims top Grand Prix spot

PARIS (R)—Gene Mayer of the United States moved from ninth to first place in the Grand Prix tennis standings with his victory over Argentine Guillermo Vilas in the Rotterdam tournament Sunday.

Peter McNamara of Australia, the previous leader, slipped back to second place.

1. Gene Mayer (U.S.)	474 points
2. Peter McNamara (Australia)	425
3. Ivan Lendl (Czechoslovakia)	402
4. John McEnroe (U.S.)	325
5. Jimmy Connors (U.S.)	312
6. Eliot Teltscher (U.S.)	295
7. Mats Wilander (Sweden)	289
8. Jose Elguera (Spain)	250
9. Jose-Luis Clerc (Argentina)	225
10. Yannick Noah (France)	205

مركز عبد السلام

ECONOMY

Sterling plunges to all-time lows against dollar, mark

LONDON (R) — Sterling plunged to all-time lows against the U.S. dollar and the West German mark Monday, but realignments within the European Monetary System (EMS) boosted it against weaker currencies.

Sterling, hurt by a strong U.S. dollar and the possibility of further oil price cuts, slipped to trade at around \$1.4790. Its previous low was set only last Friday when it closed at \$1.4875.

In Frankfurt, sterling was fixed at 3.538 marks, well below last Friday's 3.575, also its lowest ever.

But even before Monday's EMS agreement, the British currency gained against the French franc, trading around 10.6 francs against 10.33 on Friday.

Helped by this, sterling's trade-weighted index against a basket of currencies (1975 base 100) was unchanged at 78.9 at Monday's fix, several points above its low plumbed in 1976.

The latest slide in sterling has killed hopes that British commercial banks would again soon cut their lending rates after a cut last week to 10.5 per cent from 11 per cent, and could threaten the

government's tough anti-inflation policies.

Nervousness over sterling spilled over onto the stock exchange where the Financial Times index of leading shares fell over eleven points to 649.2 after closing on Friday at 661.0.

In Hong Kong, the U.S. dollar's rise in value against other major currencies was halted on the Hong Kong foreign exchange market Monday in thin and nervous trading as dealers awaited news of negotiations in Brussels on the EMS.

The dollar closed in Hong Kong at 2.3978 West German marks, after fluctuating between 2.3780 and 2.4045.

The mark was the only one of the eight EMS currencies to be traded in Hong Kong.

Sterling meanwhile closed at a record low of \$1.4820.

Dealers said activity in Hong Kong was subdued partly because the Tokyo markets were closed for a national holiday.

Trading was also quiet in Singapore where the U.S. dollar made gains against most major currencies. The French franc was not quoted, but sterling was traded at \$1.4823 while the dollars rose to 2.4000 marks, 240.80 yen and 2.0655 Swiss francs.

Abu Dhabi softens demands for tax

ABU DHABI (R) — Abu Dhabi has softened demands for a backdated 20 per cent tax on the profits of foreign banks operating here, banking sources said Monday.

The emirate — one of the seven forming the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — is now seeking to backdate the tax only to 1982 instead of the banks' date of incorporation, as first proposed in a circular sent to them last December.

The sources said the original demand could have caused substantial problems for a number of banks set up in Abu Dhabi from the mid-1970s onwards.

Longer-established banks had in many cases been paying 20 per cent of profits into a special account or making provisions for such payments.

But recently-established banks, licensed by the UAE currency board which came into existence in 1980, say they were not advised of the need to make such provisions.

The latest circular, backdating the royalty only to 1982, follows consultations between individual banks and the central bank and finance ministry, the sources said.

But they added that many of the newer banks were still pressing for the royalty to start only from the current year.

UAE expects \$2b decline in oil income

DUBAI (OPECNA) — The United Arab Emirates' (UAE) oil revenues are expected to decline by more than \$2 billion this year, based on a new OPEC-allocated production quota of 1.1 million b/d and a benchmark price of \$29, it was reported here at the weekend.

According to Al Bayan newspaper, the decline is even more marked — around \$3.27 billion — compared to 1981, when oil and gas revenues reached \$19.50 billion with average output at 1.4 to 1.5 million b/d.

The newspaper said although complete figures for 1982 were not yet available, the UAE recorded a balance of trade surplus of \$5.45 billion in the first half of the year, some \$1.31 billion down on the first six months of 1981.

The UAE's Gulf neighbour Bahrain, which is not an OPEC member, expects the oil price reduction to have a "minimal effect" on its economy.

Finance and national economy undersecretary Mr. Issa Burshaid said the petroleum sector's contribution to the country's revenues would be cut by 3.75 per cent from its present 25 per cent, but the loss would be offset through growth in other areas, including services and industry, which account for 75 per cent of Bahrain's economy.

He said the country was studying measures to cope with the decline in oil revenues through rationalising government spending and extending its four-year development programme to six years.

Bahrain, which exports its oil to run out by the end of the century, now produces only about 42,000 b/d. Its 1981 oil income totalled \$1.1 billion.

U.K. could start oil pricing war

BAHRAIN (R) — Britain will start an oil pricing war if it cuts its crude below \$30 a barrel and the resulting plunge in world prices could wipe out the economics of North Sea oil, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) said Sunday.

But if Britain holds its price at \$30 or above, an OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) price agreement hammered out last week after marathon talks in London could stabilise the market, the Nicosia-based MEES said.

Britain has proposed \$3 a barrel reduction in its price to \$30.50 and faces pressure from oil company customers to reduce further in the glutted market.

MEES said that if the British National Oil Corporation gave in to market pressure and reduced its price by more than a further 50 cents a barrel "the result will be a downward spiral with no discernible floor in the short term — not even the much vaunted \$20 a barrel."

"In such warfare all would be hurt, but whereas low-cost OPEC oil would survive, the economics of North Sea oil could be virtually wiped out," MEES said.

The emergency OPEC meeting in London made an unprecedented cut in the group's reference price, to \$29 a barrel from \$34, in the hope of stimulating demand for OPEC crude.

Price of tin soars

LONDON (R) — The price of tin, boosted by speculative demand and a weaker sterling rate against the U.S. dollar, soared to an all-time high of \$9,105 per tonne (\$6.12 per pound) Monday on the London metal exchange.

Later it dropped back slightly, due to profit-taking by some speculators, to trade at \$9,090 per tonne (\$6.11 per pound), a rise of \$29 (\$43) from Friday.

Dealers said speculators, conscious that the buffer stock manager of the International Tin Council was buying the metal, thereby pushing up its price, had followed suit and bought it themselves.

The council, representing producer nations, seeks to regulate the price on the London and Malaysian markets by buying and selling tin.

With sterling down to an all-time low of \$1.48 the buffer stock manager had been forced to buy the metal in London to keep its price level with the dollar-denominated price on the Malaysian market in Penang, dealers said.

They said the underlying trend was still upwards and some predicted the price would go as high as \$9,500 per tonne (\$6.38 per pound).

S. Indian ministers want better financial deal from Delhi

NEW DELHI (R) — The chief ministers of three south Indian states said Sunday they wanted a better financial deal from Delhi and demanded constitutional changes to give the states more power.

The three, representing around 130 million of India's 700 million people, agreed at a meeting in the southern city of Bangalore to set up a special council to review financial relations with the central government.

Their move means the south will be bargaining as a bloc with the central government and was described by the Press Trust of India news agency as an historic decision.

The leaders of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh denied they were embarking on a political confrontation with Delhi, but said they wanted a more equitable distribution of resources between the central government and the states.

They wanted to take over fixing of agricultural prices from Delhi and be given more of the taxes raised from their region.

All three states involved are now ruled by parties opposed to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress (I) Party and the move could place a new strain on relations between Delhi and the south.

The Congress (I) was defeated in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, both former bastions, in elections last January.

The three leaders, along with the small coastal enclave of Pondicherry, agreed to set up "a council of southern states' chief ministers."

They said they would be asking the government of the south-Western state of Kerala, which is headed by a Congress (I) chief minister, to consider joining the council.

The move coincides with mounting pressure on Delhi to give the regions a bigger say in running their own affairs. In the northern state of Punjab militant Sikhs are demanding autonomy for an expanded state.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Stock prices dropped sharply with some government bonds ending over a point down as sterling fell to a new low against the dollar, dealers said.

Worries over oil prices and turmoil in the European Monetary System prompted a sharp markdown at the opening and, though equities were off the lows by the close, there was no sign of a rally in bonds, they added. The new exchequer 10½ per cent 1986 convertible stock fell ½ point back to last week's £26 exhaustion price.

The F.T. index at 1500, depressed by some stocks trading ex dividend at the start of the account, was down 9.8 at 651.2.

Among the stocks trading ex dividend, B.P. was 22p down on Friday's close at 320 while Shell eased 20p to 428. Other oil shares were generally no more than a penny or two down. Lloyds was down 15p but the other clearers, all trading ex dividend, were down between 32p and 38p.

Plessey was depressed by press comment concerning problems with its British telecom contracts, falling 17p to 529. GEC lost a penny while STC was 12p down at 234 ex dividend.

French shares were neglected as operators waited for the currency markets to settle down and South African gold shares were quietly lower.

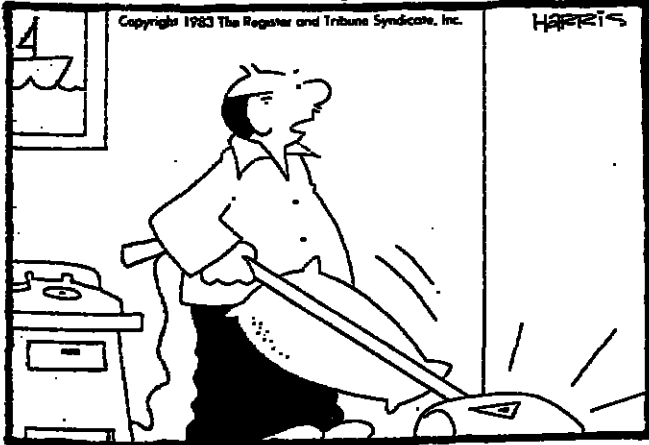
LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.4795/4805	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2250/53	Canadian dollars
	2.3865/85	West German marks
	2.6500/50	Dutch guilders
	2.0650/70	Swiss francs
	47.30/50	Belgian francs
	7.1000/7.2000	French francs
	1440.00/1460.00	Italian lire
	240.10/25	Japanese yen
	7.50/7.55	Swedish crowns
	7.25/7.28	Norwegian crowns
	8.60/8.70	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	412.75/413.75	U.S. dollars

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"Harriet, what's wrong? This vacuum cleaner sounds like Jerry Lewis going down Mount Everest on roller skates!"

JUMBLE

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SYRIT

NADDY

TRIMOP

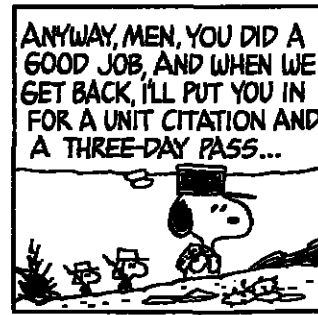
POLUCE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ANSWER: "GOLD MINES"

Yesterday's Jumbles: BLESS MONEY GUIDED BAMBOO
Answer: Gln seldom "provides" sources of wealth — "GOLD MINES"

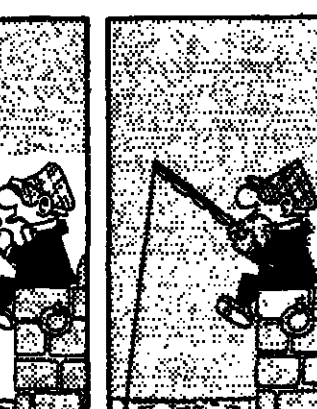
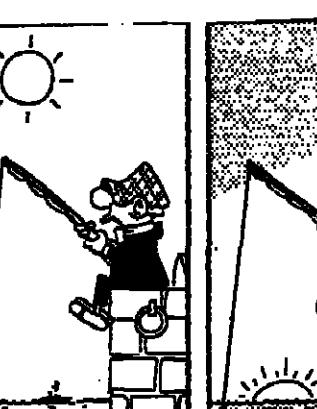
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, MAR. 22, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: There are several things you could do to make your environment more pleasant. A few words of encouragement where deserved will be greatly appreciated at this time.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Engage in proper activities that will help you realize your true potentials. Show more devotion to family members.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Study important details of a new project you have in mind. Be careful of one who has selfish motives. Relax tonight.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Discuss new plans with associates and get them to cooperate with you. Be sure to avoid spending money foolishly.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Take time to study new ways to improve your financial status. Talk to money experts for the advice you need.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Study how far you have progressed toward your goals and make needed changes. Avoid one who has an eye on your money.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be more enthused about expanding your interests so that you have greater success in the future. Think along happy lines.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Ideal day to think over your relationship with others and to do whatever will improve it. Attend social affair with congenials.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Analyze your talents well and do whatever will improve it so you can be more successful in career matters.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You should make changes now that could lead to greater success in the future. Take steps to improve your health.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Take time to study your bookkeeping methods so that you know exactly where you stand in financial matters.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Try to meet the expectation of associates and you get ahead much faster. Consider the viewpoint of one who opposes you.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Take time to add more comfort and charm to your surroundings. A discussion with co-workers can bring fine results now.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will have a fine personality but must learn to be more helpful to others to have the greatest success in life. Ideal chart for any endeavor that requires imagination. Don't neglect ethical training early in life.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword by Nancy McCarthy

ACROSS

1 Feel the absence of

5 Let's turf

9 Dance: Fr.

12 Medley

13 British

15 Nut tree

16 A tennis champion

18 — Ben Adhem

19 So far

20 Freezes

21 Took a taxi

23 Govt. agents

24 Racing form notation

25 Sizzling

26 Intellectual

31 Shun

32 Wandered

33 A Gershwin

34 Western star, once

35 Washed

36 Ora

37 Brew

38 Mother: Lat.

39 Musical transition

40 Calculator

42 Ship's officer

43 Art accessory

44 High nest

45 Deliverer of 8D

47 Adolescent annoyance

48 Old English letter

51 Scottish-Irish

52 A Wimbledon champion

55 Minor prophet

56 Tardier

57 Two of a kind

58 Beach color

59 Hags

60 Melody

DOWN

1 — Dick

2 Netman

3 Soft mud

4 Sun

5 Added

6 Jacobite or Whig of tennis

7 Termini

8 Perfectly placed

9 He lost to Billie Jean King

10 Lily plant

11 Praise

14 Repeated

15 Shish —

17 Fearful

22 Sleeping

23 Battery part

24 At no time

25 Smoking stuff: Fr.

26 Rounded molding

27 A Wimbledon champ

28 Protect

29 Have a spat

30 Certain beam

32 Badger-like animal

35 Of the side

36 Hair-raising

38 Ruminant

39 More certain

41 Surfaces

42 Destitution

44 Bad tooth

45 Chair

46 Ms. Bombick

47 Akoutan Island

48 Birthright

49 Slender

50 Roll call

53 British

54 Quick to learn

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

PISSA TILTS HOPE

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SCIENT SHIPS LIDE

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WORLD

U.S. plans to sell \$1,580m worth of arms to Taiwan angers China

PEKING (R) — China said Monday it has objected to the United States over plans to deliver a record \$1,580 million worth of arms to Taiwan over the next two years.

The foreign ministry said the projected sales greatly exceeded the level of U.S. arms deliveries to Taiwan since Peking and Washington established diplomatic relations in 1979.

It also violated a U.S. pledge in 1982 to gradually reduce its arms sales to the nationalist-ruled island, a ministry statement said.

It added: "We have made representations to the U.S. government in this regard."

The Reagan administration told Congressmen recently that Taiwan arms deliveries for 1983 were projected at \$800 million, and for 1984 at \$780 million.

Diplomatic sources in Peking said U.S. Ambassador Arthur Hummel was called to the foreign ministry last Thursday to be told of China's displeasure.

They said the envoy was told the amount represented a major increase over 1979 sales at a time when Washington was committed to a gradual reduction of deliveries.

Although Washington broke diplomatic relations with Taiwan in January 1979 to establish full ties with Peking, the political atmosphere between the two capitals has been sullied by U.S. determination to maintain Taiwan's defensive capability.

An attempt to paper over the split came with their joint communiqué last year, in which China said its goal was to seek peaceful reunification with Taiwan and the United States said it intended gradually to reduce its weapons sales to Taipei.

According to the U.S. State Department, 1979 sales totalled \$598 million which, adjusted for inflation, was the equivalent of \$830 million in 1983.

Current projections for this year and next were thus fully consistent with the 1982 communiqué, State Department officials said.

But diplomatic sources in Peking said China, which had only reluctantly agreed to a gradual phasing-out instead of an immediate cut-off, could not agree to index-linking the arms bill.

"They see Taiwan as an internal problem and they will not bargain over Chinese sovereignty," one diplomatic source said.

White Zimbabwean farmers demand protection

HARARE (R) — Zimbabwe's white farmers are seeking urgent talks with the authorities to discuss protective measures following the murder of four members of a white farming family, the Sunday Mail newspaper reported here Sunday.

The paper quoted Jim Sinclair, president of the Commercial Farmers Union (CFU) and leader of the country's 4,800 white farmers, as saying his members were shocked by the deaths on Friday of Erick Stratford, 66, his wife Christine, 62, and their granddaughters aged 15 and 16.

A government spokesman said the four were shot by dissidents at

the Stratford's farm in Nyamandlovu about 150 kilometres from Bulawayo, capital of Matabeleland.

The province has been racked by violence since early last year when opposition leader Joshua Nkomo was sacked from Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's coalition cabinet on allegations of plotting a coup, which Mr. Nkomo has denied.

"The CFU will, as a matter of utmost urgency, be seeking meetings with civil and military authorities to discuss measures to protect the lives of its members," Mr. Sinclair was quoted as saying.

White farmers, who play a significant role in Zimbabwean agriculture, have been frequent targets of violence by dissidents said by the government to be renegade ex-guerrillas of Mr. Nkomo's ZIPRA army in the Rhodesian War which led to Zimbabwe's independence in 1980.

Mr. Sinclair reported last August that 30 members of the farming community had been murdered by dissidents. As the numbers have risen, leading Matabeleland farmers have demanded the return of weapons they surrendered during a disarmament campaign after independence.

The government, anxious to

prevent an exodus of farmers from Matabeleland, has allowed them to reintroduce a radio alarm system they used for protection during the Rhodesian War.

Mr. Stratford and family, who the government spokesman said were killed after some black employees denounced the farmer as a bad employer, were the latest victims of a fresh burst of violence following a two-month army drive against dissidents.

Days after the government said the army operation had succeeded, six rebels abducted white accountant Robert Dyer-Smith near Bulawayo.

Curfew imposed on Assam

NEW DELHI (R) — An indefinite curfew was clamped early Monday on strife-torn areas of India's northern state of Assam where 25 people have been killed in two days of violence.

The order came at the start of a 24-hour state-wide strike called by Assamese militants to protest against Monday's opening session of the newly-elected Assam assembly.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said the curfew was imposed on the town of Tezpur and adjoining areas of the Central Darrang district after renewed clashes between opposing groups.

Tension was high and stray cases of arson and assault were reported overnight from areas where the army was helping civilian authorities to maintain law and order, the agency said.

PTI said a bomb exploded early Monday in the grounds of a government official's residence in the state capital of Gauhati, damaging a car.

The strike has disrupted life in Assam's central Brahmaputra Valley districts, PTI reported. All private vehicles were off the roads in Gauhati.

But PTI said train and air services were running regularly and state bus services were operating with armed escorts.

London chefs get away 'with murder'

LONDON (R) — Food served to foreign tourists at London's sightseeing spots is making British cuisine a worldwide joke, according to a report published Sunday.

Cafes at the London zoo and Madame Tussaud's waxworks museum are a scandal and cooks at the British Museum "are getting away with murder", said the report by master chef Egon Ronay.

At the London dungeon, a grisly museum of British torture methods through the ages, "our steak and kidney pie was more horrific by far" than anything on display, it added.

Mr. Ronay, whose annual pronouncement on the state of British food are awaited with trembling by restaurateurs, has given his verdict on 38 of London's main tourist traps.

It is "intolerable that 70 per cent of London's important tourist attractions should make British catering look ridiculous the world over," he writes.

"Many millions of foreign tourists, having eaten in snack bars, cafes and restaurants at these places, will spread the worst reputation for our food, which is utterly at variance with the greatly improved general standards in the country."

Only two of the 38 sites to which Mr. Ronay sent inspectors were rated outstanding: The National Gallery in Trafalgar Square and the Tate Gallery on the Thames.

Twenty others were "poor". At the zoo the cafe itself was so grubby that the inspector's trousers stuck to his chair, he writes.

At Madame Tussaud's, which draws two million visitors a year, many to its chamber of horrors, the food was "a real disgrace."

His inspectors at the British Museum, a vast temple of treasures, ate "disgusting pate, revolting fried cod."

Mr. Ronay said caterers at the museum, which attracts 2.5 million people a year, and at the Science Museum, which draws 3.8 million, were "getting away with murder."

A zoo spokesman said: "It is impossible to please everyone." Elsewhere the English tradition of afternoon tea is making a comeback, especially among businessmen, Mr. Ronay added.

"It can easily happen nowadays that a deal is closed over a dainty cucumber sandwich while sipping tea, instead of over a tinned rosin gulping chamberlain," the report said.

But the interim report that U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger and other ministers will discuss goes beyond the need to find 464 warheads that can be scr-

apped. It makes an inventory of the arsenal and reviews the role of tactical weapons.

One diplomat said: "NATO's doctrine of flexible response, implying a variety of short-range nuclear weapons to deter any level of aggression, remains unchanged."

"But there is growing doubt among NATO experts about the usefulness of such a large number. At least there is an urgent need to rationalise them."

Many of the weapons are outdated. Their short range means they must be deployed near the expected front line, making them vulnerable to surprise attack. They would thus have to be fired swiftly or fall into enemy's hands.

This week's meeting will lay the groundwork for a decision on the stockpile to be taken in the autumn, the diplomats said.

The report has been prepared by senior experts under U.S. Assistant Defence Secretary Richard Perle at recent meetings in California and Brussels.

It lays down some guidelines and recommends areas for possible cuts but does not mention any number, according to the diplomats.

Main candidates for the scrap heap are 20-year-old demolition mines and Nike-Hercules air defence missiles due to be replaced by the non-nuclear Patriot missiles, they said.

The diplomats said the study did not mention the issue of "enhanced radiation" (neutron) weapons, produced and stockpiled by the U.S.

Their deployment in Europe for use on artillery guns would have to be agreed by the U.S. and its allies, they said.

Charles, Diana talk to Australian kids

ALICE SPRINGS (R) — Children from Australia's remote outback, uninhibited by royalty, Sunday chatted freely with Prince Charles and his wife Princess Diana in a unique radio broadcast.

After greeting the royal visitors over the airwaves with exuberant cries of "giddy" and "good morning" they questioned them on such topics as the size of Buckingham Palace and how they planned to educate their baby son Prince William.

The children, who live on the vast cattle and sheep ranches which are spread thinly across a 1.3 million square kilometres belt of Central Australia, participated in the question and answer session over Alice Springs School of the Air.

From the school's studios Prince Charles and the princess listened as children living thousands of kilometres apart were prompted by school principal Fred Hockley to describe their lives in places with names like Austral Downs and Rabbit Flat.

Ten-year-old Tania Soldo, who lives about 500 kilometres south of Alice Springs informed her royal audience that she lived in an opal mining centre with "approximately 150 miners of mixed nationality and only about eight women."

Some of the children had questions ready for the royal visitors, on the second day of their six week tour of Australia and New Zealand.

One five-year-old wanted to know whether Prince William had a bicycle yet.

"He hasn't got one yet. We think he's a bit small," the princess said. She told other children who asked her that the baby has six teeth but cannot crawl yet.

Prince William was not in the studio but at a farm in New South Wales being used by the family as a base for his Australian stay.

Another ten-year-old, Danny Brumby of Owen Springs Station, wanted to know what school Prince William will go to. "That's a very difficult question. We haven't really thought in detail about that just yet because he's only nine months old," Prince Charles said.

He added that the prince will

not be educated by radio but might have to go away to boarding school. Prince Charles himself spent a year at Australia's Timbertop School in Victoria in the mid 60's.

One boy, Andrew Clark, 11, who lives near the South Australia/Northern Territory border, asked how many rooms there are in Buckingham Palace.

"I haven't actually counted them and even if I did I daresay there would be quite a lot that people didn't know about that somebody had been living in for many years unknown to anybody else," the prince told Andrew.

The broadcast closed after about 15 minutes with a typically Australian farewell. "See ya" the school kids cried in unison.

Leaving the school building Princess Diana spent a long time kneeling to talk to many of the more than 2,000 children from the town who had gathered to welcome the royal couple.

Rain at last

SYDNEY (R) — Heavy rains have swept areas of Australia suffering the worst drought this century, giving farmers hope that the long dry spell may be ending.

The rains, the first for five years in some parts, crossed the eastern states of New South Wales and Queensland filling dams and soaking under dry pasture.

There was flooding around Birdsville, a tiny township in the Western region of Queensland, known to the locals as "heartbreak corner" because of the impact of the drought.

A spokesman for the meteorological office said there had been widespread rain in the two states, with parts of southwestern Queensland receiving 150 millimetres of rain in 72 hours.

Michael Yabsley, a spokesman for the Livestock and Grain Producers Association, said the rain was welcome but it had not broken the drought.

Prayers were said in churches Sunday for the continuation of the rain. But weather forecasters said they expected the rain to die out over the next 24 hours.

NATO's tactical nuclear stockpile may be reduced

BRUSSELS (R) — NATO defence ministers will reassess the role of tactical nuclear weapons in Europe this week, a review that could lead to sizeable cuts in the present stockpile, diplomats said.

NATO has about 6,000 nuclear warheads in Europe, including missiles, mines, bombs and artillery shells.

The twice-yearly meeting of the alliance's nuclear planning group, to be held near Faro, southern Portugal, on Tuesday and Wednesday, will discuss an interim report on how to reduce the stockpile by at least 464.

This is the number of new medium-range cruise missiles whose deployment will start in December if there is no concrete result by then at the U.S.-Soviet arms control talks in Geneva.

NATO Secretary-General Joseph Luns, speaking about a complete ban on medium range missiles in Europe — the "zero option" — proposed by the U.S.-told Belgian television Sunday:

"Practically speaking, we have now realised that the zero option is not attainable because the Russians say no. We are now headed for an interim solution."

When NATO decided in 1979 to deploy 464 cruise and 108 Pershing II missiles to counter Soviet SS-20s, it said the move should not produce a net increase of nuclear weapons in Europe.

The 108 Pershing IIs do not have to be taken into account since they will replace on a one-for-one basis existing Pershing I missiles.

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apped. It makes an inventory of the arsenal and reviews the role of tactical weapons.

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"But there is growing doubt among NATO experts about the usefulness of such a large number. At least there is an urgent need to rationalise them."

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Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez recently ruled out a referendum this year, saying it would heighten international tension.

Spain joined NATO last June but the new socialist government froze integration with the organisation's military wing and promised a referendum on membership.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Missing Libyan girl found

LONDON (R) — The 17-year-old daughter of a Libyan diplomat returned to her London home unharmed Monday after being missing since Friday, police said. Police, who conducted door-to-door inquiries near the diplomat's house, said they understood her disappearance was a domestic matter. Amal Sharif, who speaks little English, came to Britain last September with her father Mohammed Hadi Sharif, financial attaché at the Libyan People's Bureau in London. She vanished on Friday after leaving her mother and sister to look for a watch lost on a shopping trip.

Japanese protest Enterprise visit

SASEBO, Japan (R) — Thousands of left-wing protesters demonstrated Monday in the southwestern port of Sasebo against a visit by a U.S. nuclear-powered aircraft carrier and the defense policies of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone. Two people were arrested in scuffles with police during a two-kilometre march through the city, bringing the number of arrests to eight since the arrival of the 90,000-ton carrier Enterprise Monday morning. Police estimated the number of marchers at 7,000 but organisers said more than 10,000 took part, shouting slogans against the ship's visit and any attempts by the Nakasone government to strengthen Japan's defence ties with the U.S.

Jumbo's tail hit by lightning

LONDON (R) — A jumbo jet with 237 passengers aboard had the tip of its tail knocked off by lightning Monday on a flight from New York to Scotland, airport officials said. The Boeing 747 airliner landed safely at Shannon airport in the Irish Republic, a scheduled stop, after being hit by lightning twice in a storm over Ireland. Officials said the tip of the plane's tail had been broken off within inches of the rudder. Passengers in the North West Orient Airlines plane reported a bright flash, a loud bang and buffeting.

3 Spanish fake art dealers caught

BARCELONA (R) — Police arrested three men last month accused of dealing in fake art and found 47 forged paintings copying Picasso, Miro, Goya, Toulouse-Lautrec and Dalí, police sources said. The arrests were disclosed after a news magazine carried an interview with a Spanish painter earlier this week who claimed to have flooded the art market with fake Dalis. Police said the arrests led them to believe there was a store of 600 fakes somewhere in Barcelona, but they refused to give any details of how many items may have been sold or were still in circulation.

2 Thai rebels killed, 1 caught

SADAO, Thailand (R) — Thai security forces killed two Communist guerrillas and captured another in an ambush at the weekend near the Malaysian border, a Thai military spokesman said Monday. Soldiers attacked a group of 15 guerrillas after a tip-off from villagers that members of a breakaway group of the outlawed Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) had left their jungle camps to collect food, the spokesman said.

TV-AM replacement only temporary

LONDON (R) — British Member of parliament Jonathan Aitken, the new head of Britain's commercial breakfast television company TV-AM, said his appointment had to be temporary to save any political embarrassment. The Conservative M.P., appointed TV-AM chairman in the face of low viewing figures, told reporters he expected a replacement to take over in a matter of weeks. Former Labour M.P. Bryan Gould said earlier that the appointment "breached all conventions of political impartiality in broadcasting."

UNITA sends message to Czechoslovakia

LISBON (R) — An Angolan rebel movement which earlier this month seized 64 Czechoslovak tanks has asked the Prague government to order Cuban and Angolan troops to call off a major offensive aimed at recovering the captives.

The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) said the Luanda regime had mobilised all its forces and that Soviet-built MIG fighters were bombing areas through which the guerrillas might be taking the hostages.

In a communiqué released here, UNITA said that if there was a clash with the UNITA column escorting the hostages, the Angolan government troops and Cuban soldiers would not recover a single person.

"They would only lose the Czechoslovak tanks and the Portuguese. It is up to the Czechoslovak government and Portugal to order the MPLA (the Luanda regime) to stop its pursuit immediately because it can only lead to the worst," the communiqué said.

UNITA, which captured the 64 Czechoslovak tanks and 20 Portuguese in a raid on an industrial complex in central Angola on March 12, said its leadership was sensitive to the statements of the Prague government.

"UNITA is not in conflict with the people of Czechoslovakia," the communiqué said. Czechoslovak leaders have appealed to foreign statesmen to help secure the release of the captives, who include 21 children.

Sunday's communiqué, said to have been signed by UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi in Angola, promised that all the children captured in the raid would be handed over to the International Committee of the Red Cross as soon as the guerrilla column escorting them reached "safe areas."

"There will be no negotiation about the children," the communiqué said.

United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar is expected in Moscow next week at the invitation of Communist Party leader Yuri Andropov to discuss the Afghan problem.

Quoting the official Afghan Bakhtar news agency, TASS said government units had "eliminated" a large group of rebel insurgents at Jalalabad, 60 kilometres from the Pakistani border, seizing their arms and ammunition.

Security posts had been set up in every village of Badkhash province "to protect the peaceful labour of the people," TASS said.

MOSCOW (R) — Rebel activity in Afghanistan increased during the past year, but there were also a large number of defections to the side of the Moscow-backed government, the Soviet news agency TASS said Sunday.

In a summary of the past 12 months to mark Monday's beginning of a new Afghan year, TASS's Kabul correspondent said the past year had not been easy.

The Soviet press has recently been giving greater coverage to the hardships faced by its soldiers in Afghanistan, fuelling speculation among Kremlin-watchers that Moscow may be beginning to regret its involvement.

WASHINGTON (R) — A survey of 12,000 prisoners in U.S. gaols has shown that about one third of them were under the influence of an illegal drug when they committed the crime for which they were sentenced.

Date from the U.S. census bureau 1979 survey, released Sunday by the bureau of justice statistics, showed more than half the inmates questioned said they had taken illegal drugs during the month before they committed the crime.

Seventy-eight per cent said they used drugs at some time in their lives. This compared with an estimated 40 per cent of the non-prison population.

The survey showed that 30 per cent of the inmates had used heroin, compared with an estimated two per cent of the general public.

"Male inmates were somewhat more likely than female inmates to have used some form of drugs and to have used them recently," the report said.

"These differences were not large and disappeared entirely for cocaine. Heroin use was somewhat more common among women."

TASS laments Afghan debacle

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Study indicates role of drugs in U.S. crime

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"These differences were not large and disappeared entirely for cocaine. Heroin use was somewhat more common among women."

Lung cancer may become worse than breast cancer

SAN DIEGO, Texas (R) — The president of the American Cancer Society said Sunday lung cancer would overtake breast cancer as a major killer of women during the next three or four years if women continue to smoke as they do now.

Dr. Willis Taylor said that while the death rate from lung cancer in men between 20 and 44 had fallen between 1968 and 1979, it had grown to be serious threat to women.

"Trying to get smokers to give up the habit has become one of the most difficult problems in cancer control," he told a San Diego meeting of science writers sponsored by the society.

Smoking was a major, and avoidable, cause of the disease, Dr. Taylor said, adding that smoking was the main cause of cancer in the lungs, larynx, mouth and throat, and a contributing cause in the bladder, kidney and pancreas.

He criticised tobacco industry

encouragement to smokers and said \$73 million were being spent this year to promote a single brand of cigarette, marketed exclusively for women.

Dr. Taylor said: "During the 1970s there was substantial improvement in survival and quality of life for patients with seven of the 10 major forms of cancer."

"Very significant declines have come about in cancer deaths between 1968 and 1979. At least 14 types of cancer now are being cured in a majority of cases."

He added, however, that cigarette smoking continued to have a chilling effect on overall cancer statistics.

Dr. Taylor also reported advances in basic cancer research: "Interferons are finding a place in the treatment of cancer. They have shown activity against some of the forms of cancer tested to date."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
 ♠ K
 ♥ Q83
 ♦ KQJ6
 ♣ AK1065

WEST
 ♠ 87
 ♥ AJ109
 ♦ 10752
 ♣ 942

EAST
 ♠ AQ109652
 ♥ 4
 ♦ 93
 ♣ J88

SOUTH
 ♠ J43
 ♥ K7652
 ♦ A84
 ♣ Q7

The bidding:
 South West North East
 Pass Pass 1 + 3 +
 Pass Pass Dble Pass
 4 ♣ Pass Pass Pass
 Opening lead: Eight of ♣.

Preemptive bidding can deflect the opponents from reaching their best contract. But when it fails to do so, that tactic can paint a picture of the hand that allows declarer to make a contract that would normally go down!

Looking at the North-South hands, you would want to play this hand in four hearts. Given normal distribution, your expectation would be to lose two heart tricks and a spade. North-South surmounted East's barrage to reach that contract. At his second turn, North doubled—for takeout,